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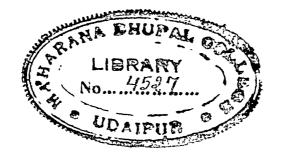
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PASSAGES FOR ENGLISH REPETITION

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HUMPHREY MILFORD
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
LONDON NEW YORK TORONTO MELBOURNE
CAPE TOWN BOMBAY CALCUTTA MADRAS
1920

FOR permission to include copyright poems thanks are due to the following to the Poet Laureate for one poem, to Mr Laurence Binyon for one poem

(and to The Times for confirming permission) to the Society of Authors on Mrs. Henley's behalf for one poem by William Ernest Henley, to Mr E W Hornung for two poems (and to Messrs Constable and Co Ltd for confirming permission), to Sir Henry Newbolt for three poems, and to the Authors' Alliance, on behalf of Mrs Flecker for one poem by

permission), as well as for one poem from his and

Mr C R L Fletcher's History of England (and to Mr Fletcher for concurring in this permission), and to Messrs Sidgwick and Jackson Ltd for a sonnet

by Rupert Brooke

James Elroy Flecker and to Mr Martin Secker for confirming this permission, to Mr Rudyard Kipling for one poem reprinted from Barrack Room Ballads (and to Messrs Methuen & Co., Ltd. for confirming

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AR'THUR WILLIAM EDGAR O'SHAUGHNESSY

1844-1881

Ode.

We are the music-makers,
And we are the dreamers of dreams,
Wandering by lone sea-breakers,
And sitting by desolate streams;
World-losers and world-forsakers,
On whom the pale moon gleams:
Yet we are the movers and shakers
Of the world for ever, it seems.

With wonderful deathless ditties
We build up the world's great cities,
And out of a fabulous story
We fashion an empire's glory:
One man with a dream, at pleasure,
Shall go forth and conquer a crown;
And three with a new song's measure
Can trample a kingdom down.

We, in the ages lying
In the buried past of the earth,
Built Nineveh with our sighing,
And Babel itself in our mirth;

OSHAUGHNLSSY

2

And oerthrew them with prophesving
To the Old of the New Worlds worth,
For each age is a dream that is dying,
Or one that is coming to birth

A breath of our inspiration
Is the life of each generation,
A wondrous thing of our dreaming,
Unearthly, impossible seeming—
The soldier, the king, and the peasant
Are working together in one,
Till our dream shall become their present

And their work in the world be done

They had no vision amazing
Of the goodly house they are raising,
They had no divine foreshowing
Of the land to which they are going
But on one mans soul it firth broken,
A light that doth not depart,
And his look, or a word he hath spoken,
Wrought flume in another mans heart

And therefore to day is thrilling
With a past days late fulfilling,
And the multitudes are enlisted
In the faith that their fathers resisted
And, scorning the dream of to morrow,
Are bringing to pass, as they may,
In the world, for its joy or its sorrow,
The dream that was scorned y-sterday

But we, with our dreaming and singing,
Ceaseless and sorrowless we!
The glory about us clinging
Of the glorious future we see,
Our souls with high music ringing:
O men! it must ever be
That we dwell, in our dreaming and singing,
A little apart from ye.

For we are afar with the dawning
And the suns that are not yet high,
And out of the infinite morning
Intrepid you hear us cry—
How, spite of your human scorning,
Once more God's future draws nigh,
And already goes forth the warning
That ye of the past must die.

Great hail! we cry to the comers
From the dazzling unknown shore;
Bring us hither your sun and your summers,
And renew our world as of yore;
You shall teach us your song's new numbers,
And things that we dreamed not before;
Yea, in spite of a dreamer who slumbers,
And a singer who sings no more.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

1564-1616 ALL the world's a stage, And all the men and women merely players They have their exits and their entrances. And one man in his time plays many parts, His acts being seven ages At first the infant, Mewling and puking in the nurses arms And then the whining school boy, with his satchel, And shining morning face, creeping like snail Unwillingly to school And then the lover, Sighing like furnace, with a woful ballad Made to his mistress evebrow. Then a soldier, Full of strange oaths, and bearded like the pard, lealous in honour sudden and quick in quarrel Seeking the bubble reputation Even in the cannon's mouth. And then the justice. In fair round belly with good capon lin'd, With eyes severe, and beard of formal cut, Full of wise saws and modern instances. And so he plays his part. The sixth age shifts Into the lean and slipper d pantaloon. With spectacles on nose and pouch on side, His youthful hose well say d a world too wide For his shrunk shank, and his big manly voice. Turning again toward childish treble pipes And whistles in his sound Last scene of all. That ends this strange eventful history. Is second childishness and mere oblivion Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything As You Like It, II VII 130.66

UNDER the greenwood tree
Who loves to lie with me,
And turn his merry note
Unto the sweet bird's throat,
Come hither, come hither;

Here shall he see

No enemy

But winter and rough weather.

Who doth ambition shun,
And loves to live i' the sun,
Seeking the food he eats,
And pleas'd with what he gets,

Come hither, come hither, come hither:

Here shall he see No enemy

But winter and rough weather.

As You Like It, 11. v. 1-8, 37-44.

BLOW, blow, thou winter wind,
Thou art not so unkind
As man's ingratitude;
Thy tooth is not so keen,
Because thou art not seen,
Although thy breath be rude.

Heigh-ho! sing, heigh-ho! unto the green holly: Most friendship is feigning, most loving mere folly.

Then heigh-ho! the holly! This life is most jolly.

Freeze, freeze, thou bitter sky, That dost not bite so nigh

WILLIAM SHAKI SPEARI

As benefits forgot I hour h thou the waters warn, The store is not so sharp

As friend remember if not

6

Heigh ho! sing, heigh ho! unto the green holls Most friendship is feigning most loving mere folly

Then heigh ho! the holls This life is most jolly

1s You Lake It. 11 VII 174-97

Oberon My gentle Puck, come hither Thou rememby rist

Since once 1 sat upon a promontory, And heard a mermaid on a dolphin's back Uttering such dulcet and harmonious breath. That the rude sea gray civil at her song, And certain stars shot madly from their spheres To hear the sea maid's music.

PuclI remember Oberon That very time I saw, but thou couldst not, I lying between the cold moon and the earth.

Cupid all armid a certain aim he tool. At a fair vestal throned by the west. And loos d his love shaft smartly from his bow. As it should pierce a hundred thousand hearts. But I might see young Cupid's fiery shaft Quench d in the chasti beams of the wat'ry moon. And the imperial votaress passed on

In maiden meditation, fancy free Yet mark d I where the bolt of Cupid fell It fell upon a little western flower,
Before milk-white, now purple with love's wound,
And maidens call it, Love-in-idleness.
Fetch me that flower; the herb I show'd thee once
The juice of it on sleeping eyelids laid
Will make or man or woman madly dote
Upon the next live creature that it sees.
Fetch me this herb; and be thou here again
Ere the leviathan can swim a league.

Puck I'll put a girdle round about the earth In forty minutes.

A Midsummer Night's Dream, II. i. 148-76

Over hill, over dale,

Thorough bush, thorough brier,
Over park, over pale,
Thorough flood, thorough fire,
I do wander every where,
Swifter than the moone's sphere;
And I serve the fairy queen,
To dew her orbs upon the green:
The cowslips tall her pensioners be;
In their gold coats spots you see;
Those be rubies, fairy favours,
In those freckles live their savours:
I must go seek some dew-drops here,

And hang a pearl in every cowslip's ear.

A Midsummer Night's Dream, II. i. 2-15.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARL

I ULL fathom five thy father lies,

Я

Of his bones are coral made
Those are pearls that were his eyes
Nothing of him that doth fade,
But doth suffer a sea change
Into sonething rich and strange
Sea nymphs hourly ring his harel
Hark I now I hear them,—durg dong, bell

them,—ding dong, bell
Tae Tempest, I is 394-401

FEAR no more the heat o' the sun Nor the furous winters rages Thou thy worldly task hast done, Home art gone, and ta'en thy wages, Golden ludy and girls all must.

As chunney sweepers, come to dust Fear no more the frown o the great, Thou art past the tyrant's stroke

To thee the reed is as the oak. The sceptre, learning, physic, must All follow this, and come to dust

Fear no more the lightning flash, Nor the all dreaded thunder stone, Fear not slander, censure rash,

Thou hast finish d joy and moan All lovers young all lovers must Consign to thee, and come to dust No exorciser harm thee! Nor no witchcraft charm thee! Ghost unlaid forbear thee! Nothing ill come near thee! Quiet consummation have; And renowned be thy grave!

Cymbeline, IV. ii. 258-81.

How sweet the moonlight sleeps upon this bank! Here will we sit, and let the sounds of music Creep in our ears: soft stillness and the night Become the touches of sweet harmony.

Sit, Jessica: look, how the floor of heaven Is thick inlaid with patines of bright gold:

There's not the smallest orb which thou behold'st But in his motion like an angel sings,

Still quiring to the young-eyed cherubins;

Such harmony is in immortal souls;

But, whilst this muddy vesture of decay

Doth grossly close it in, we cannot hear it.

Enter Musicians.

Come, ho! and wake Diana with a hymn:
With sweetest touches pierce your mistress' ear,
And draw her home with music.

[Music.

Jessica. I am never merry when I hear sweet music. Lorenzo. The reason is, your spirits are attentive: For do but note a wild and wanton herd, Or race of youthful and unhandled colts, Fetching mad bounds, bellowing and neighing loud,

Which is the hot condition of their blood, If they but hear perchinee a trimpet sound, Or any air of music touch their ears, You shall perceive them make a mutual stand, Their snage eyes turn dit of a modest gaze By the sweet power of music therefore the poet Did feigh that Orpheus drew trees, stones, and floods, Since nought so stocksh, hird, and full of rage, But music for the time doth change his nature The man that hath no music in himself, Nor is not mor d with concord of sweet sounds, Is fit for treasons, stratagems, and spools, The motions of his spirit are dull as night, And his affections dark as Erebus

Let no such man be trusted Mark the music.

The Merchant of Venuce, V 1 54-88

How many thousand of my poorest subjects Are at this hour asleep! O sleep! O gentle sleep! Nature's soft nurse, how have I frighted thee, That thou no more wilt weigh my eyelds down And steep my senses in forgetfulness? Why rather, sleep, liest thou in smoky cribs, Upon uneasy pallets stretching thee, And hushd with buzzing night flies to thy slumber Than in the perfumd chambers of the great, Under the canopies of costly state, And Iudl dwith sound of sweetest melody? O thou dail god! why liest thou with the vile In loatishome beds, and leax at the kingly couch

A watch-case or a common 'larum bell? Wilt thou upon the high and giddy mast Seal up the ship-boy's eyes, and rock his brains In cradle of the rude imperious surge, And in the visitation of the winds, Who take the ruffian billows by the top, Curling their monstrous heads, and hanging them With deaf'ning clamour in the slippery clouds, That with the hurly death itself awakes? Canst thou, O partial sleep! give thy repose To the wet sea-boy in an hour so rude, And in the calmest and most stillest night, With all appliances and means to boot, Deny it to a king? Then, happy low, lie down! Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown.

II King Henry the Fourth, III. i, 4-31.

METHINKS I am a prophet new inspir'd,
And thus expiring do foretell of him:
His rash fierce blaze of riot cannot last,
For violent fires soon burn out themselves;
Small showers last long, but sudden storms are short;
He tires betimes that spurs too fast betimes;
With eager feeding food doth choke the feeder:
Light vanity, insatiate cormorant,
Consuming means, soon preys upon itself.
This royal throne of kings, this scepter'd isle,
This earth of majesty, this seat of Mars,
This other Eden, demi-paradise,
This fortress built by Nature for herself

Against infection and the hand of war, This happy breed of men, this little world, This precious stone set in the silver sea Which serves it in the office of a wall Or as a most defensive to a house. Against the envy of less happier lands, This blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this England, This nurse, this teeming womb of royal kings, Fear d by their breed and famous by their birth, Renowned for their deeds as fir from home,-For Christian service and true chivalry,-As is the sepulchre in stubborn Jewry Of the world's ransom, blessed Mary's Son This land of such dear souls, this dear, dear land, Dear for her reputation through the world, Is now leasd out,-I die pronouncing it,-Like to a tenement, or pelting firm England, bound in with the triumphant sea Whose rocky shore beats back the envious siege Of watery Neptune, is now bound in with shame, With inky blots, and rotten parchment bonds That England, that was wont to conquer others, Hath made a shameful conquest of itself Ah! would the scandal vanish with my life, How happy then were my ensuing death

King Richard the Second, II 1 31-68

Exeler While that the armed hand doth fight abroad The advised head defends itself at home For government, though high and low and lower, Put into parts, doth keep in one consent, Congreeing in a full and natural close, Like music.

Canterbury. Therefore doth heaven divide The state of man in divers functions. Setting endeavour in continual motion; To which is fixed, as an aim or butt, Obedience: for so work the honey-bees, Creatures that by a rule in nature teach The act of order to a peopled kingdom. They have a king and officers of sorts; Where some, like magistrates, correct at home. Others, like merchants, venture trade abroad, Others, like soldiers, armed in their stings, Make boot upon the summer's velvet buds; Which pillage they with merry march bring home To the tent-royal of their emperor: Who, busied in his majesty, surveys The singing masons building roofs of gold, The civil citizens kneading up the honey, The poor mechanic porters crowding in Their heavy burdens at his narrow gate, The sad-ey'd justice, with his surly hum, Delivering o'er to executors pale The lazy yawning drone. I this infer, That many things, having full reference To one consent, may work contrariously; As many arrows, loosed several ways, Fly to one mark; as many ways meet in one town; As many fresh streams meet in one salt sea; As many lines close in the dial's centre;

So may a thousand actions, once afoot, End in one purpose, and be all well borne Without defeat

Now entertun conjecture of a time

King Henry the Fifth, 1 n 178-213

When creeping murmur and the poring dark hills the wide vessel of the universe From camp to camp through the foul womb of night, The hum of either army stills sounds. That the fix d sentinels almost receive The secret whispers of each other's watch Fire answers fire, and through their paly flames Each battle sees the other's umber'd face Steed threatens steed, in high and boastful neighs Piercing the night's dull ear, and from the tents The armourers, accomplishing the knights, With busy hammers closing rivets up. Give dreadful note of preparation The country cocks do crow, the clocks do toll, And the third hour of drowsy morning name. Proud of their numbers, and secure in soul, The confident and over lusty French Do the low rated English play at dice, And chide the cripple tardy-gaited night Who, like a foul and ugly witch, doth limp So tediously away The poor condemned English, Like sacrifices, by their watchful fires Sit patiently, and inly ruminate The morning's danger, and their gesture sad

Investing lank lean cheeks and war-worn coats Presenteth them unto the gazing moon So many horrid ghosts. O! now, who will behold The royal captain of this ruin'd band Walking from watch to watch, from tent to tent, Let him cry 'Praise and glory on his head!' For forth he goes and visits all his host, Bids them good morrow with a modest smile, And 'calls them brothers, friends, and countrymen. Upon his royal face there is no note How dread an army hath enrounded him; Nor doth he dedicate one jot of colour Unto the weary and all-watched night: But freshly looks and overbears attaint With cheerful semblance and sweet majesty; That every wretch, pining and pale before, Beholding him, plucks comfort from his looks. A largess universal, like the sun His liberal eye doth give to every one, Thawing cold fear. Then mean and gentle all, Behold, as may unworthiness define, A little touch of Harry in the night.

King Henry the Fifth, IV, Chorus, 1-47.

Westmoreland. O! that we now had here But one ten thousand of those men in England That do no work to-day.

King Henry. What's he that wishes so? My cousin Westmoreland? No, my fair cousin: If we are mark'd to die, we are enow

16 To do our country loss, and if to live, The fewer men, the greater share of honour God's will I pray thee, wish not one man more By Jove, I am not covetous for gold, Nor care I who doth feed upon my cost, It yearns me not if men my garments wear, Such outward things dwell not in my desires But if it be a sin to covet honour, I am the most offending soul alive No, faith, my coz, wish not a man from England God's peace! I would not lose so great an honour As one man more, methinks, would share from me, For the best hone I have OI do not wish one more Rather proclaim it. Westmoreland, through my host, That he which hath no stomach to this fight, Let him depart, his passport shall be made, And crowns for convoy put into his purse We would not die in that man's company That fears his fellowship to die with us This day is call'd the feast of Crispian He that outlines this day, and comes safe home, Will stand a tip toe when this day is nam'd, And rouse him at the name of Crispian He that shall live this day, and see old age, Will yearly on the yigh feast his neighbours, And say, To morrow is Saint Crispian' Then will he strip his sleeve and show his scars, And say, 'I hese wounds I had on Crispin's day Old men forget yet all shall be forgot, But hell remember with advantages What feats he did that day Then shall our names, Familiar in his mouth as household words, Harry the king, Bedford and Exeter, Warwick and Talbot, Salisbury and Gloucester, Be in their flowing cups freshly remember'd. This story shall the good man teach his son; And Crispin Crispian shall ne'er go by, From this day to the ending of the world, But we in it shall be remembered: We few, we happy few, we band of brothers; For he to-day that sheds his blood with me Shall be my brother; be he ne'er so vile This day shall gentle his condition: And gentlemen in England now a-bed Shall think themselves accurs'd they were not here, And hold their manhoods cheap whiles any speaks That fought with us upon Saint Crispin's day.

King Henry the Fifth, IV. iii. 16-67.

Brutus. What means this shouting? I do fear, the people

Choose Caesar for their king.

Cassius. 'Ay, do you fear it? Then must I think you would not have it so.

Brutus. I would not, Cassius; yet I love him well. But wherefore do you hold me here so long? What is it that you would impart to me? If it be aught toward the general good, Set honour in one eye and death i' the other, And I will look on both indifferently; For let the gods so speed me as I love

The name of honour more than I fear death Cossius I know that virtue to be in you, Brutus, As well as I do know your outward favour Well, honour is the subject of my story I cannot tell what you and other men Think of this life, but, for my single self, I had as lief not be as live to be In awe of such a thing as I myself I was born free as Caesar, so were you We both have fed as well, and we can both Endure the winter's cold as well as he For once, upon a raw and gusty day, The troubled Tiber chafing with her shores, Caesar said to me, 'Dar'st thou, Cassius, now Lean in with me into this angry flood. And swim to vonder point? Upon the word, Accoutred as I was, I plunged in And bade him follow, so indeed he did The torrent roard, and we did buffet it With lusty sinews, throwing it aide And stemming it with hearts of controversy, But ere we could arrive the point propos'd, Caesar cried, 'Help me, Cassins, or I sink!' I. as Aeneas, our great ancestor, Did from the flames of Troy upon his shoulder The old Anchises bear so from the waves of Tiber Did I the tired Caesar And this man Is now become a god, and Cassius is A wretched creature ind must bend his body If Caesar carelessly but nod on him He had a fever when he was in Spain,

And when the fit was on him, I did mark How he did shake; 'tis true, this god did shake; His coward lips did from their colour fly, And that same eye whose bend doth awe the world Did lose his lustre; I did hear him groan; Ay, and that tongue of his that bade the Romans Mark him and write his speeches in their books, Alas! it cried, 'Give me some drink, Titinius,' As a sick girl. Ye gods, it doth amaze me, A man of such a feeble temper should So get the start of the majestic world, And bear the palm alone. Flourish. Shout. Brutus. Another general shout! I do believe that these applauses are For some new honours that are heaped on Caesar. Cassius. Why, man, he doth bestride the narrow world

Like a Colossus; and we petty men
Walk under his huge legs, and peep about
To find ourselves dishonourable graves.
Men at some time are masters of their fates:
The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars,
But in ourselves, that we are underlings.
Brutus and Caesar: what should be in that 'Caesar'?
Why should that name be sounded more than yours?
Write them together, yours is as fair a name;
Sound them, it doth become the mouth as well;
Weigh them, it is as heavy; conjure with 'em,
'Brutus' will start a spirit as soon as 'Caesar'.
Now, in the names of all the gods at once,
Upon what meat doth this our Caesar feed,

That he is grown so great? Age, thou art shand! Rome, thou hast lost the breed of noble bloods! When went there by an age, since the great flood, But it was famd with more than with one man? When could then san 'ill now, that talk do f Rome, That her wide walls encompass d but one man? Now is it Rome indeed and room enough, When there is in it but one only man of 'i ou and I have heard our fathers say. There was a Brutus once that would have brook'd The eternal deal to keep his state in Rome As cash) as a king

Bruius That vou do love me, I am nothing jealous, What you would work me to, I have some aun How I have thought of this und of these times, I shall recount hereafter, for this present, I would not, so with love I might entreat you, Be any further mon d. What you have said I will consider, what you have to say I will with pauence hear, and find a time Both meet to hear and answer such high things Tall then, my noble friend, chew upon this Brutus had rather be a villager Than to repute himself a son of Rome Under these hard conditions as this time Is like to I say upon us.

Cassius I am glad
That my weak words have struck but thus much show
Of fire from Brutus.

Julius Caesar, 1 ii 79-176

How all occasions do inform against me, And spur my dull revenge! What is a man, If his chief good and market of his time Be but to sleep and feed? a beast, no more. Sure he that made us with such large discourse, Looking before and after, gave us not That capability and god-like reason To fust in us unus'd. Now, whe'r it be Bestial oblivion, or some craven scruple Of thinking too precisely on the event, A thought, which, quarter'd, hath but one part wisdom, And ever three parts coward, I do not know Why yet I live to say 'This thing's to do'; Sith I have cause and will and strength and means To do't. Examples gross as earth exhort me: Witness this army of such mass and charge Led by a delicate and tender prince, Whose spirit with divine ambition puff'd Makes mouths at the invisible event. Exposing what is mortal and unsure To all that fortune, death and danger dare, Even for an egg-shell. Rightly to be great Is not to stir without great argument, But greatly to find quarrel in a straw When honour's at the stake. How stand I then, That have a father kill'd, a mother stain'd, Excitements of my reason and my blood, And let all sleep, while, to my shame, I see The imminent death of twenty thousand men, That, for a fantasy and trick of fame, Go to their graves like beds, fight for a plot

Whereon the numbers cannot try the cause, Which is not tomb enough and continent fo hide the slam? Of from this time forth, My thoughts be bloody, or be nothing worth?

Hamlet, IV is 32-66

Our rusels now are ended. These our actors, As I foretold you, were all sprints and Ar melted into air, into thin air. And like the baseless fibric of this vision, The cloud cappd towers, the gorgeous palaces. The solemn temples, the great globe itself, Yea, all which it inherit, shall dissolve. And, like this insubstantial pageant fuded, Levie not a rick behind. We are such stuff. As dreams are made on, and our little life. Is rounded with a sleep.

The Tempest, W 1 148-58

I INE as the waves make towards the pebbled shore, So do our minutes histen to their end, Lach changing place with thit which goes before, In sequent tool all forwards do contend Naturity, once in the main of light, Crawls to maturity, wherewith being crown d, Crooked celopses 'guinst his glory fight, And Time that gave doth now his gift confound

Time doth transfix the flourish set on youth And delves the parallels in beauty's brow, Feeds on the rarities of nature's truth, And nothing stands but for his scythe to mow:

And yet to times in hope my verse shall stand, Praising thy worth, despite his cruel hand.

Sonnet LX.

When I have seen by Time's fell hand defac'd The rich-proud cost of outworn buried age; When sometime lofty towers I see down-raz'd, And brass eternal slave to mortal rage; When I have seen the hungry ocean gain Advantage on the kingdom of the shore, And the firm soil win of the watery main, Increasing store with loss, and loss with store; When I have seen such interchange of state, Or state itself confounded to decay; Ruin hath taught me thus to ruminate—That Time will come and take my love away.

This thought is as a death, which cannot choose But weep to have that which it fears to lose.

Sonnet LXIV.

THAT time of year thou mayst in me behold When yellow leaves, or none, or few, do hang Upon those boughs which shake against the cold, Bare ruin'd choirs, where late the sweet birds sang.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

21

In me thou seest the twilight of such day As after sunset fadeth in the west, Which by and by black night doth take awij, Death's second self, that seals up all in rest In me thou seek the glowing of such fire, That on the 'shes of his youth doth lie, As the death bed whereon it must expire, Consumd with that which it was nourished by

Consum d with that which it was nourished by This thou perceived, which makes thy love more strong.

To love that well which thou must leave ere long

WHEN in the chronicle of wasted time

Sonnet LXXIII

I see descriptions of the furest wights,
And beauty miking beautiful old rune,
In pruse of ladies dead and lovely kinghts,
Then, in the blizon of sweet beauty s best,
Of hand, of foot, of lip, of eye, of brow,
I see their antique pen would have express d
Even such a beauty as you master now
So ill their praises are but prophecies
Of this our tune, all you prefiguring,
And, for they look d but with divining eyes,
They had not skill enough your worth to sing
For we, which now behold these present days,
Have eyes to wonder, but lack tongues to praise

LET me not to the marriage of true minds
Admit impediments. Love is not love
Which alters when it alteration finds,
Or bends with the remover to remove:
O, no! it is an ever-fixed mark,
That looks on tempests and is never shaken;
It is the star to every wandering bark,
Whose worth's unknown, although his height be
taken.

Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks Within his bending sickle's compass come; Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks, But bears it out even to the edge of doom.

If this he error and upon me provid

If this be error, and upon me prov'd, I never writ, nor no man ever lov'd.

Sonnet CXVI.

EDMUND SPENSER

1552-1599

OPEN the temple gates unto my love,
Open them wide that she may enter in,
And all the posts adorn as doth behove,
And all the pillars deck with girlands trim,
For to receive this Saint with honour due,
That cometh in to you.
With trembling steps and humble reverence,
She cometh in before th' Almighty's view,
Of her ye virgins learn obedience,
When so ye come into those holy places,
To humble your proud faces:
Bring her up to th' high altar, that she may

The stored ceremonies there partake, The which do endless mittimon, make, And let the rouring organs loudly play. The prises of the Lord, in Inely notes, The whiles, with bollow throats The chorsters the joyous ruthem sing, That all the woods may answer and their echo ring

Epithalamion

MICHAEL DRAYTON

To the Virginian Voyage
YOU brive heroic minds,

1563 1631

Worth, your country's name, That honour still pursue, Go, and subdue Whilst lottering hinds Lurk here at home, with shame

Britons, you stay too long, Quickly abourd bestow you, And with a merry gale Swell your stretched suil, With yows as strong As the winds that blow you

Your course securely steer, West and by south forth keep, Rocks, lee shores nor shoals, When Aeolus scowls, You need not fear.

So absolute the deep

And cheerfully at sea
Success you still entice,
To get the pearl and gold,
And ours to hold
Virginia,
Earth's only Paradise.

Where Nature hath in store Fowl, venison, and fish,
And the fruitfull'st soil,
Without your toil,
Three harvests more,
All greater than your wish.

And the ambitious vine
Crowns with his purple mass
The cedar reaching high
To kiss the sky,
The cypress, pine
And useful sassafras.

To whom the Golden Age
Still Nature's laws doth give,
No other cares that tend,
But them to defend
From winter's rage,
That long there doth not live.

When as the luscious smell
Of that delicious land,
Above the seas that flows,
The clear wind throws,
Your hearts to swell
Approaching the dear strand.

In kenning of the shore (Thanks to God first given) O you the happiest men Be frolic then.

28

Let cannons roar I righting the wide heaven

And in regions for Such heroes bring ye forth, As those from whom we came, And plant our name. Under that star

Not unknown unto our North

And as there plenty grows Ot laurel everywhere Apollo's sacred tree, You may it see.

A poets brows

To crown, that may sing there Thy vovages attend.

Industrious Hackluyt. Whose reading shall inflame Men to seek fame, And much commend

To after times thy wit

The Parting.

SINCE there's no help, come let us kiss and part,
Nay, I have done: you get no more of me,
And I am glad, yea, glad with all my heart,
That thus so cleanly I myself can free.
Shake hands for ever, cancel all our vows,
And when we meet at any time again,
Be it not seen in either of our brows
That we one jot of former love retain;
Now at the last gasp of Love's latest breath,
When, his pulse failing, Passion speechless lies,
When Faith is kneeling by his bed of death,
And Innocence is closing up his eyes,

Now if thou wouldst, when all have given him over, From death to life thou mightst him yet recover.

SIR HENRY WOTTON

1568-1639

Character of a Happy Life.

How happy is he born and taught, That serveth not another's will; Whose armour is his honest thought, And simple truth his utmost skill;

Whose passions not his masters are; Whose soul is still prepared for death, Untied unto the world by care Of public fame or private breath; Who envies none that chance doth raise, Nor vice, hath never understood How deepest wounds are given by praise, hor rules of state, but rules of good Who hath his life from rumours freed, Whose conscience is his strong retreat, Whose state can neither flatterers feed, Nor num pale accusers great.

Who God doth late and early pray, More of His grace than gifts to lend, And entertains the harmless day With a well chosen book or friend,

—This man is freed from servile bands Of hope to rise or fear to fall, Lord of himself though not of lands, And having nothing, yet hith all

BEN IONSON

1573-1637

It is not growing like a tree In bulk, doth make man better be, Or standing long an oak, three hundred year To fall a log at last, dry, bald, and sere

A lily of a day Is fairer far in May.

Although it fill and die that night— It was the plant and flower of light In small proportions we just beauties see, And in short measures, life may perfect be

THOMAS HEYWOOD

157 ?-165 >

PACK, clouds, away, and welcome day,
With night we banish sorrow;
Sweet air blow soft, mount lark aloft
To give my Love good-morrow!
Wings from the wind to please her mind
Notes from the lark I'll borrow;
Bird prune thy wing, nightingale sing,
To give my Love good-morrow;
To give my Love good-morrow
Notes from them both I'll borrow.

Wake from thy nest, Robin-red-breast,
Sing birds in every furrow;
And from each hill, let music shrill
Give my fair Love good-morrow!
Blackbird and thrush in every bush,
Stare, linnet, and cock-sparrow!
You pretty elves, amongst yourselves
Sing my fair Love good-morrow;
To give my Love good-morrow
Sing birds in every furrow!

ROBERT HERRICK

7591-1674

Corinna's going a Vaying

GET up, get up for shame, the blooming morn Lpon her usings presents the god unshorn See how Autora throws her fur

See how Aurora throws her fur Fresh-quilted colours through the air Get up, sueet slug a-bed, and see

Get up, sweet slug a-bed, and see The dew bespangling herb and tree

The dew bespanging herb and tree bach flower has wept, and bowed toward the east, Above an hour since, yet you not dressed,

Nay! not so much as out of bed? When all the birds have Matins said, And sung their thankful hymns, 'tis sin,

Nay profanation to keep in,
Whenas a thousand virgins on this day,

Spring, sooner than the lark, to fetch in May

Ruse, and put on your folinge, and be seen
To come forth, like the spring time, fresh and green,
And sweet as Flora. Take no care

For jewels for your gown, or hair Fear not, the leaves will strew Gems in abundance upon you

besides, the childhood of the day has kept, Against you come, some orient pearls unwept

Come, and receive them while the light Hangs on the dew locks of the night And Titan on the eastern hill

Retires himself, or else stands still

Till you come forth. Wash, dress, be brief in praying;

Few beads are best, when once we go a-Maying.

Come, my Corinna, come; and coming, mark

How each field turns a street, each street a park

Made green, and trimmed with trees: see how Devotion gives each house a bough, Or branch; each porch, each door, ere this, An ark, a tabernacle is,

Made up of white-thorn neatly interwove; As if here were those cooler shades of love.

> Can such delights be in the street, And open fields, and we not see't? Come, we'll abroad; and let's obey The proclamation made for May:

And sin no more, as we have done, by staying; But, my Corinna, come, let's go a-Maying.

Come, let us go, while we are in our prime, And take the harmless folly of the time.

We shall grow old apace, and die Before we know our liberty. Our life is short, and our days run

As fast away as does the sun;

And as a vapour, or a drop of rain Once lost, can ne'er be found again;

So when or you or I are made A fable, song, or fleeting shade;

. All love, .all liking, all delight

Lies drowned with us in endless night.

Then while time serves, and we are but decaying, Come, my Corinna, come, let's go a-Maying

To Daffodils

FAIR Diffodils, we weep to see You haste away so soon,
As yet the early rising sun His not ritained his noon Stay, stay,
Until the hasting day

Has run
But to the evensong,
And having prayed together, we
Will go with you along

We have short time to stay as you,
We have as short a spring,
As quick a growth to meet decay,
As you, or anything

We die
As your hours do, and dry

Like to the summer's rain,

Or is the pearls of morning's dew,

Ne er to be found again

GEORGE HERBERT

1593-1632

Virtue

SWEET day, so cool, so calm, so bright,
The bridal of the earth and sky,
The dew shall weep thy fall to night,
For thou must die.

Sweet rose, whose hue, angry and brave, Bids the rash gazer wipe his eye, Thy root is ever in its grave, And thou must die.

Sweet spring, full of sweet days and roses, A box where sweets compacted lie, My music shows ye have your closes, And all must die.

Only a sweet and virtuous soul, Like seasoned timber, never gives; But though the whole world turn to coal, Then chiefly lives.

JAMES SHIRLEY

1596-1666

THE glories of our blood and state
Are shadows, not substantial things;
There is no armour against fate;
Death lays his icy hand on kings:
Sceptre and Crown
Must tumble down,
And in the dust be equal made
With the poor crookèd scythe and spade.

Some men with swords may reap the field,
And plant fresh laurels where they kill:
But their strong nerves at last must yield;
They tame but one another still:

Larly or late

They stoop to fate,

And must give up their murmuring breath
When they pale captives, creep to death

The girlands wither on your brow,
Then boast no more your mighty deeds,
Loon Death's purple altar now

See where the victor victim bleeds

To the cold tomb, Only the actions of the just Smell sweet, and blossom in their dust

WILLIAM HABINGTON

1605-1654

Celestral sphere, So rich with jewels hung, that Night Doth like in Ethiop bride appear

WHEN I survey the bright

My soul her wings doth spread And heavenward flies, The Almighty's mysteries to read In the large volumes of the skies

For the bright firmament Shoots forth no flame So silent, but is eloquent In speaking the Creator's name No unregarded star

Contracts its light

Into so small a character,

Removed far from our human sight,

But if we steadfast look

We shall discern

In it, as in some holy book,

How man may heavenly knowledge learn.

JOHN MILTON

1608-1674

SWEET Echo, sweetest nymph, that liv'st unseen Within thy airy shell

By slow Meander's margent green, And in the violet-embroidered vale

Where the love-lorn nightingale

Nightly to thee her sad song mourneth well:

Canst thou not tell me of a gentle pair

That likest thy Narcissus are?

O if thou have

Hid them in some flowery cave,

Tell me but where,

Sweet Queen of Parley, Daughter of the Sphere! So may'st thou be translated to the skies,

And give resounding grace to all Heaven's harmonies!

Comus, 230-43.

AT last a soft and solemn-breathing sound Rose like a steam of rich distill'd perfumes, And stole upon the air, that even Silence Was took ere she was ware, and wished she might Deny her nature, and be never more
Still to be so displaced I was all ear,
And took in strains that might create a soul
Under the ribs of Death But, oh! ere long
Too well I did perceive it was the sone.
Of my most honoured Lady, your dear sister
Amazed I stood harrowed with gruf and fear,
And 'O poor hipless nightingale, thought I,
How sweet thou sing it how near the deadly sarve!

Comment, 535-67

On Being Arrived at Twenty three Years of Age

How soon hath Time, the subtle thref of youth, Stoin on his wing my three and twentieth year! My hasting days fill on with full career, But my late spring no bud or blossom shewth Perhaps my semblance might deceive the truth, That I to manhood am arrived so near, And inward ripeness doth much less appear, That some more timely happy, spirits indu thyet be at less or more, or soon or slow, Is shall be still in strictest measure even, Is that same lot, however mean, or high Toward which Time leads me, and the will of Heaven, All is, if I have grace to use it so, As ever in my great Taskmisters eye

On His Blindness.

When I consider how my light is spent,
Ere half my days, in this dark world and wide,
And that one talent which is death to hide,
Lodged with me useless, though my soul more bent
To serve therewith my Maker, and present
My true account, lest He returning chide,
Doth God exact day-labour, light denied?
I fondly ask; but Patience, to prevent
That murmur, soon replies, God doth not need
Either man's work or His own gifts: who best
Bear His mild yoke, they serve Him best; His state
Is kingly. Thousands at His bidding speed
And post o'er land and ocean without rest:
They also serve who only stand and wait.

YET not the more
Cease I to wander where the Muses haunt
Clear spring, or shady grove, or sunny hill,
Smit with the love of sacred song; but chief
Thee, Sion, and the flowery brooks beneath,
That wash thy hallowed feet, and warbling flow,
Nightly I visit: nor sometimes forget
Those other two equalled with me in fate,
So were I equalled with them in renown,
Blind Thamyris and blind Maeonides,
And Tiresias and Phineus, prophets old:
Then feed on thoughts that voluntary move
Harmonious numbers; as the wakeful bird

Sings darkling, and in shadiest covert hid, Tunes her nocturnal note. Thus with the year Seasons return, but not to me returns Day, or the sweet approach of even or morn, Or sight of vernal bloom, or summers rose, Or flocks or herds or human face divine. but cloud instead and ever-during dark Surrounds me from the cheerful ways of men Cut off, and, for the book of knowledge fair, Presented with a universal blank Of Nature's works, to me expunged and rased, And wisdom at one entrince quite shut out So much the rather thou, Celestral Light, Shine inward, and the mind through all her powers Irradiate, there plant eyes, all mist from thence Purge and disperse, that I may see and tell Of things invisible to mortal sight Paradise Lost, m 26-55

RICHARD LO\FLACF

1010 103

To Althea, from Prison

WHEN I ove with unconfined wings
Hovers within my gates,
And my divine Althea brings
To whisper at the grates,
When I he ringled in her hur
And fluid on her hur

And fettered to her eye, The birds that wanton in the air Know no such liberts When flowing cups run swiftly round
With no allaying Thames,
Our careless heads with roses crown'd,
Our hearts with loyal flames;
When thirsty grief in wine we steep,
When healths and draughts go free—
Fishes that tipple in the deep
Know no such liberty.

When, like committed linnets, I
With shriller throat shall sing
The sweetness, mercy, majesty
And glories of my King;
When I shall voice aloud how good
He is, how great should be,
Enlarged winds, that curl the flood,
Know no such liberty.

Stone walls do not a prison make,
Nor iron bars a cage;
Minds innocent and quiet take
That for an hermitage:
If I have freedom in my love
And in my soul am free,
Angels alone, that soar above,
Enjoy such liberty.

ANDREW MARVELL

1621-1678

Song of the Emigrants in Bermuda

WHERF the remote Bermudas ride In the ocean's bosom unespied, From a small boat that row'd along The listening winds received this song 'What should we do but sing His praise That led us through the watery maze Unto an isle so long unknown. And yet far kinder than our own? Where He the huge sea monsters wracks, That lift the deep upon their backs, He lands us on a grassy stage, Safe from the storms and prelates rage He gave us this eternal spring Which here enamels everything, And sends the fouls to us in care On daily visits through the air. He hangs in shades the orange bright Like golden lamps in a green night, And does in the pomegranates close levels more rich than Ormus shows He makes the figs our mouths to meet, And throws the melons at our feet. But apples plants of such a price, to tree could ever bear them twice With cedars chosen by His hand From Lebanon He stores the land,

And makes the hollow seas that roar Proclaim the ambergris on shore. He east (of which we rather boast) The Gospel's pearl upon our coast; And in these rocks for us did frame A temple where to sound His name. Oh! let our voice His praise exalt Till it arrive at Heaven's vault, Which then (perhaps) rebounding may Echo beyond the Mexique bay!' Thus sung they in the English boat An holy and a cheerful note; And all the way, to guide their chime, With falling oars they kept the time.

HENRY VAUGHAN

1621-1695

The Retreat

HAPPY those early days, when I
Shined in my Angel-infancy!
Before I understood this place
Appointed for my second race,
Or taught my soul to fancy aught
But a white, celestial thought;
When yet I had not walked above
A mile or two from my first Love,
And looking back, at that short space
Could see a glimpse of His bright face;

When on some guided cloud or flower My grung soul would dwell an hour, And in those weaker glories spy Some shadows of eternity, Before I raught my tongue to wound My conscience with a sinful sound, Or had the black art to dispense A several sin to every sense, But telt through all this fleshly dress Bright shoots of everlastingness

O how I long to trivel back,
And tread again that nucent trick. I
That I might once more reach that plain,
Where first I left my glorious train,
From whence the ealightened spirit sees
That shady city of polin trees!
But ah' my soul with too much stry
Is drunk, and striggers in the way!
Some men's forward motion love,
But I by backward steps would move,
And when this dust fulls to the urn,
In that strie I cyme, return.
In that strie I cyme, return.

Beyond the Ves!

THEY are all gone into the world of light!

And I alone sit ling ring here.

Their very memory is fair and bright,

And my sad thoughts doth clear

It glows and glitters in my cloudy breast,
Like stars upon some gloomy grove,
Or those faint beams in which this hill is drest,
After the sun's remove.

I see them walking in an air of glory,
Whose light doth trample on my days:
My days, which are at best but dull and hoary,
Mere glimmering and decays.

O holy Hope! and high Humility,
High as the heavens above!
These are your walks, and you have showed them me,
To kindle my cold love.

Dear, beauteous Death, the jewel of the just, Shining nowhere, but in the dark; What mysteries do lie beyond thy dust, Could man outlook that mark!

He that hath found some fledged bird's nest, may know

At first sight, if the bird be flown;
But what fair well or grove he sings in now,
That is to him unknown.

And yet, as Angels in some brighter dreams

Call to the soul, when man doth sleep,

So some strange thoughts transcend our wonted themes,

And into glory peep.

They hadna saild a lengue, a lengue.

A league but barely three,

When the lift grew dark and the wind blew loud,

And purily grew the sea

The unkers brak, and the topmist Inp,²
It was sic a deadly storm
And the wates can over the broken ship
Till a her sides were form

O where will I get a gude sailor
To tak my helm in hand,
Till I get up to the tall topmast
To see if I can spy land r—

O here am I, a sailor gude, Fo tak the helm in hand, Till you go up to the tall topmast, But I fear you'll neer spy land'

He hadna gane a step, a step,
A step but barely ane,
When a bolt flew out of our goodly ship,
And the saut sea it came in

'Go fetch a web o the silken cluth, Another o' the twine, And wap' them into our ship's side, And let noe the sea come in

1 left sky 2 lap] sprang 3 wap] wrap

They fetch'd a web o' the silken claith,
Another o' the twine,
And they wapp'd them round that gude ship's
side,
But still the sea came in.

O laith, laith were our gude Scots lords To wet their cork-heel'd shoon; But lang or a' the play was play'd They wat their hats aboon.

And mony was the feather-bed
That flatter'd 1 on the faem;
And mony was the gude lord's son
That never mair cam hame.

O lang, lang may the ladies sit, Wi' their fans into their hand, Before they see Sir Patrick Spens Come sailing to the strand!

And lang, lang may the maidens sit Wi' their gowd kames 2 in their hair, A-waiting for their ain dear loves! For them they'll see nae mair.

Half-owre, half-owre to Aberdour,
'Tis fifty fathoms deep;
And there lies gude Sir Patrick Spens,
Wi' the Scots lords at his feet!

¹ flatter'd] tossed afloat. 2 kames] combs.

SAMUEL DANIFI.

1562 1619

Ulysses and the Stren Siren

COME worthy Greek! Ulysses, come,

Possess these shores with me The winds and seas are troublesome, And here we may be free

Here may we sit and view their toil

That travail in the deep.

And joy the day in mirth the while, And spend the night in sleep

Ulysses

hair Nymph, if fame or honour were To be attained with ease. Then would I come and rest me there And leave such toils as these

But here it dwells, and here must I With danger seek it forth

To spend the time luxuriously Becomes not men of worth

Stren Ulysses, O be not deceived With that unreal name,

This honour is a thing conceived, And rests on others fame Begotten only to molest

Our peace, and to begule The best thing of our life-our rest, And give us up to toil

Ulysses

Delicious Nymph, suppose there were
No honour nor report,
Yet manliness would scorn to wear
The time in idle sport:
For toil doth give a better touch
To make us feel our joy,
And ease finds tediousness as much
As labour yields annoy.

Siren

Then pleasure likewise seems the shore Whereto tends all your toil, Which you forgo to make it more, And perish oft the while. Who may disport them diversely Find never tedious day, And ease may have variety As well as action may.

Ulysses

But natures of the noblest frame
These toils and dangers please;
And they take comfort in the same
As much as you in ease;
And with the thought of actions past
Are recreated still;
When Pleasure leaves a touch at last
Tô show that it was ill.

Siren

That doth Opinion only cause
That s out of Custom bred,
Which mikes us miny other laws
Than ever Nature did
to widows wail for our delights,
Our sports are without blood,
The world we see by warlike wights
Receives more burt than good

L'hsses

But yet the state of things require These motions of unrest, And these great Spirits of high desire Seem born to turn them best To purge the mischiefs that increase And all good order mar For oft we see a wicked peace To be well changed for war

Siren

Well, well, Ulysses, then I see I shall not have thee here And therefore I will come to thee, And take my fortune there I must be won, that cannot win, Yet lost were I, not won, For beauty hath created been T' undo, or be undone

ANONYMOUS

The Brave Lord Willoughby.

THE fifteenth day of July,
with glistering spear and shield,
A famous fight in Flanders
was foughten in the field:
The most courageous officers
was English captains three,
But the bravest man in battle
was brave Lord Willoughby.

The next was Captain Norris,
a valiant man was he:
The other, Captain Turner,
that from field would never flee:
With fifteen hundred fighting men,
alas! there was no more,
They fought with forty thousand then
upon the bloody shore.

'Stand to it, noble pikemen,
and look you round about;
And shoot you right, you bowmen,
and we will keep them out:
You musket and cailiver men
do you prove true to me,
I'll be the foremost man in fight,'
says brave Lord Willoughby.

And then the bloody enemy they fiercely did assail And fought it out most valuantly, not doubting to pre ail

The wounded men on both sides fell, most piteous for to see,

most piteous for to see, Yet nothing could the courage quell of brave Lord Willoughby

For seven hours to all man's new this fight endured sore. Until our men so feeble grew that they could fight no more And then upon dead horses full savourly they eat, And drank the puddle water, for no better they could get

When they had fed so freely.

they kneeled on the ground, And praised God decouity, for the favour they had found, And bearing up their colours, the fight they did renew, And turning toward the Spaniard, five thousand more they slew.

The sharp steel pointed arrows and bullets thick did fly, Then did our valent soldiers charge on most furiously Which made the Spaniards waver, they thought it best to flee,
They feared the stout behaviour of brave Lord Willoughby.

Then quoth the Spanish General,
'Come, let us march away,
I fear we shall be spoiled all,
if that we longer stay:
For yonder comes Lord Willoughby,
with courage fierce and fell,
He will not give one inch of ground,
for all the devils in hell.'

And then the fearful enemy
was quickly put to flight,
Our men pursued courageously,
and rout their forces quite:
And at last they gave a shout,
which echoed through the sky,
'God and Saint George for England!'
the conquerors did cry.

This news was brought to England, with all the speed might be,
And told unto our gracious Queen,
of this same victory:
'O this is brave Lord Willoughby,
my love hath ever won,
Of all the lords of honour,
'tis he great deeds hath done.'

For soldiers that were manned, and wounded in the frav, The Queen allowed a pension of eighteen pence it day levide, all costs and charges she quit and set them free, And this she did all for the sake of brave Lord Willoughby

Then courage, noble Englishmen, and never be dismayed, it that we be but one to ten, we will not be afraid Po fight the foreign enemies, and set our country free, And thus I end this bloody bout of brine Lord Willoughhy

JOHN DRYDEN

1631~1700

Song for Saint Cecilia's Day, 1687 FROM harmony from heavenly harmony,

This universal frame began When Nature underneath a heap Of jarring atoms lay, And could not heave her head,

The tuneful voice was heard from high, Arise, ye more than dead! Then cold, and hot, and moist and dry In order to their stations leap,
And Music's power obey.

From harmony, from heavenly harmony
This universal frame began:
From harmony to harmony
Through all the compass of the notes it ran,
The diapason closing full in Man.

What passion cannot Music raise and quell?

When Jubal struck the chorded shell

His listening brethren stood around,

And, wondering, on their faces fell

To worship that celestial sound:

Less than a god they thought there could not dwell

Within the hollow of that shell,

That spoke so sweetly and so well.

What passion cannot Music raise and quell?

The trumpet's loud clangor
Excites us to arms,
With shrill notes of anger
And mortal alarms.
The double double beat
Of the thundering drum
Cries 'Hark! the foes come;
Charge, charge, 'tis too late to retreat!'

The soft complaining flute
In dying notes discovers
The woes of hopeless lovers,
Whose dirge is whispered by the warbling lute.

Sharp violins proclaim Their jealous prings and desperation, Fury, frantic indignation, Depth of pains, and height of passion, For the fair, disdainful dame

But oh! what art can teach,
What human voice can reach
The sacred organs praise?
Notes inspiring holy love,
Notes that wing their heavenly ways
To mend the choirs above

Orpheus could lead the savage race,
And trees uprooted left their place,
Sequacious of the lyre
But bright Cecilia ruised the wonder higher
When to her organ vocal breath was given,
An angel heard and straight appeared
Mistriking earth for heart!

Grand Chorns

As from the power of sacred frys. The spheres began to move, And sang the great Creator's prime Fo all the blees above, So when the last and dreadful hour. This crumbing pageant shall devour, The trimplet shall be head on high, The dead shall line, the living die, And Muse shall untime the sky.

George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham.

In the first rank of these did Zimri stand: A man so various, that he seem'd to be Not one, but all Mankind's epitome. Stiff in opinions, always in the wrong; Was everything by starts, and nothing long: But, in the course of one revolving moon, Was chemist, fiddler, statesman, and buffoon; Then all for women, painting, rhyming, drinking, Besides ten thousand freaks that died in thinking. Blest madman, who could every hour employ, With something new to wish, or to enjoy! Railing and praising were his usual themes; And both (to show his judgement) in extremes: So over violent, or over civil, That every man, with him, was God or Devil. In squandering wealth was his peculiar art: Nothing went unrewarded, but desert. Beggar'd by fools, whom still he found too late: He had his jest, and they had his estate. He laugh'd himself from Court; then sought relief By forming parties, but could ne'er be chief: For, spite of him, the weight of business fell On Absalom and wise Achitophel: Thus wicked but in will, of means bereft, He left not faction, but of that was left.

Absalom and Achitophel, 543-68.

THOMAS GRAY

1916-1971

Elegy written in a Country Churchyard

THE Curfey tolls the knell of parting day, The lowing herd wind slowly o'er the lea, The ploughman homeward plods his weary way, And leaves the world to darkness and to me

Now fades the glummering landscape on the sight, And all the air a solemn stillness holds. Save where the beetle wheels his droning flight, And drowsy unklings lull the distant folds

Save that from yonder my mantled tower The moping owl does to the moon complain Of such as, wandering near her secret bower, Molest her ancient solitary reign

Beneath those rugged elms, that yen-tree's shade, Where heaves the turf in many a mouldering heap, Each in his narrow cell for ever laid. The rude Forefathers of the hamlet sleep

The breezy call of incense breathing morn, The swillow twittering from the straw built shed, The cocks shrill clarion, or the echoing horn, No more shall rouse them from their lowly bed

For them no more the blazing hearth shall burn, Or basy housewife ply her evening care No children run to lisp their sire's return, Or climb his knees the envied kiss to share

Oft did the harvest to their sickle yield, Their furrow oft the stubborn glebe has broke; How jocund did they drive their team affeld! How bowed the woods beneath their sturdy stroke!

Let not Ambition mock their useful toil, Their homely joys, and destiny obscure; Nor Grandeur hear with a disdainful smile The short and simple annals of the poor.

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power, And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave, Awaits alike th' inevitable hour. The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

Nor you, ye Proud, impute to these the fault If Memory o'er their tomb no trophies raise, Where through the long-drawn aisle and fretted vault The pealing anthem swells the note of praise.

Can storied urn or animated bust Back to its mansion call the fleeting breath? Can Honour's voice provoke the silent dust, Or Flattery soothe the dull cold ear of Death?

Perhaps in this neglected spot is laid Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire; Hands, that the rod of empire might have swayed, Or waked to ecstasy the living lyre.

But Knowledge to their eyes her ample page Rich with the spoils of time, did ne'er unroll; Chill Penury repressed their noble rage, And froze the genial current of the soul.

Full many a gem of purest ray screne The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear Full many a flower is born to blush unseen, And waste its succiness on the desect air

Some village Hampden, that with dauntless breast The little tyrant of his fields withstood, Some mute inglorious Milton here may rest. Some Cromwell guiltless of his country s blood

Th applause of listening senates to command, The threats of pain and ruin to despise. To scatter plenty over a smiling land.

And read their history in a nation's eyes,

Their lot forbade nor circumscribed alone Their growing virtues, but their crimes confined, Forbade to wade through slaughter to a throne. And shut the gates of mercy on mankind,

The struggling pangs of conscious truth to lude, To quench the blushes of morenuous shame. Or heap the shrine of Luxury and Pride With incress Lindled at the Muses flame

Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife Their sober wishes never learned to stray. Along the cool sequestered vale of life They kept the noiseless tenor of their way

Yet e'en these bones from insult to protect Some frail memorial still erected migh. With uncouth rhymes and shapeless sculpture decked Implores the passing tribute of a sigh

Their name, their years, spelt by th' unlettered muse, The place of fame and elegy supply: And many a holy text around she strews, That teach the rustic moralist to die.

For who, to dumb forgetfulness a prey, This pleasing anxious being e'er resigned, Left the warm precincts of the cheerful day, Nor cast one longing lingering look behind?

On some fond breast the parting soul relies, Some pious drops the closing eye requires; E'en from the tomb the voice of Nature cries, E'en in our ashes live their wonted fires.

For thee, who, mindful of th' unhonoured dead, Dost in these lines their artless tale relate; If chance, by lonely contemplation led, Some kindred spirit shall inquire thy fate,—

Haply some hoary-headed swain may say, 'Oft have we seen him at the peep of dawn Brushing with hasty steps the dews away To meet the sun upon the upland lawn;

'There at the foot of yonder nodding beech That wreathes its old fantastic roots so high, His listless length at noon-tide would he stretch, And pore upon the brook that babbles by.

'Hard by yon wood, now smiling as in scorn, Muttering his wayward fancies he would rove; Now drooping, woeful-wan, like one forlorn, Or crazed with care, or crossed in hopeless love. 'One morn I mesed him on the customed hill, Along the heath, and near his favourite tree, Another came nor yet beside the rill, Yor up the Ingr, nor at the wood was he,

The next with dirges due in sad array Slow through the church way path we saw him borne,—

Approach and read (for thou canst read) the by Graved on the stone beneath you aged thorn'

THE CPITAPH

HERE rests his head upon the Iap of Larth A Youth, to Fortune and to Fame unknown, Fur Science frowned not on his humble birth, And Melancholy marked him for her own

Large was his bounty, and his soul sincere, Heaven did a recompense as largely send He gave to Misery (till he had) a tear, He gained from Heaven (twas all he wished) a

No farther seek his ments to disclose, Or driw his frailtes from their dread abode (There they alike in trembling hope repose), The bosom of his Father and his God

ANNA LAETITIA BARBAULD

1743-1825

Lifc.

LIFE! I know not what thou art, But know that thou and I must part; And when, or how, or where we met I own to me's a secret yet.

Life! we've been long together
Through pleasant and through cloudy weather;
'Tis hard to part when friends are dear—
Perhaps 'twill cost a sigh, a tear;
—Then steal away, give little warning,
Choose thine own time:
Say not Good Night,—but in some brighter clime
Bid me Good Morning.

WILLIAM BLAKE

1757-1827

The Tiger.

TIGER! Tiger! burning bright
In the forests of the night,
What immortal hand or eye
Could frame thy fearful symmetry?

In what distant deeps or skies Burnt the fire of thine eyes? On what wings dare he aspire? What the hand dare seize the fire? And what shoulder, and what art, Could twist the sinews of thy heart? And when the heart began to beat, What dread hand? and what dread feet? What the hammer? what the chain? In what furnace was the brain? What the anvil? what dread grasp Dare its deadly terrors clasp? When the stars threw down their spears, And watered heaven with their tears. Did be smile his work to see? Did he who made the Lamb make thee? Tiger! Tiger! burning bright In the forests of the night. What immortal hand or eve Dare frame thy fearful symmetry?

WILLIAM WORDSWORTH

1770-1820

FOR nature then
(The coarser pleasures of my boyah days,
And their glad animal movements all gone by)
To me was all in all —I carrot paint
What then I was The sounding cataract
Haunted me like a passion the tall rock,
The mountain, and the deep and gloomy wood,
Cheir colours and their forms, were then to me
And poetite, a feeling and a love,
That, no need of a remoter charm,
By the, supplied, nor any interest

Unborrowed from the eye.—That time is past, And all its aching joys are now no more, And all its dizzy raptures. Not for this Faint I, nor mourn nor murmur; other gifts Have followed; for such loss, I would believe, Abundant recompense. For I have learned To look on nature, not as in the hour Of thoughtless youth; but hearing oftentimes The still, sad music of humanity, Nor harsh nor grating, though of ample power To chasten and subdue. And I have felt A presence that disturbs me with the joy Of elevated thoughts; a sense sublime Of something far more deeply interfused, Whose dwelling is the light of setting suns, And the round ocean and the living air, And the blue sky, and in the mind of man: A motion and a spirit, that impels All thinking things, all objects of all thought, And rolls through all things. Therefore am I still A lover of the meadows and the woods. And mountains: and of all that we behold From this green earth; of all the mighty world Of eye, and ear,-both what they half create, And what perceive; well pleased to recognize In nature and the language of the sense The anchor of my purest thoughts, the nurse, The guide, the guardian of my heart, and soul Of all my moral being.

Lines composed above Tintern Abbey. 11. 72-111.

I wandered lonely as a Cloud

I WANDTRED lonels as a cloud That floats on high oer vales and hills, When all a once I saw a crowd, A host of golden daffodds, beside the lake, beneath the trees, I luttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shane And twinkle on the milky way, They stretched in never-ending line Along the margin of a bay Len thousand saw I at a glance Tossing their heads in sprightly dance

The waves beside them danced, but they Our did the sparking waves in glee A poet could not but be gay, In such a jocund company I gazed—and gared—but little thought What wealth the show to me had brought

For oft, when on my couch I lie In vacant or in pensive mood, They firsh upon that inward eye Which is the blas of solitude, And then my herit with pleasure fills, And dances with the daffolds

The Sonnet.

NUNS fret not at their convent's narrow room; And hermits are contented with their cells; And students with their pensive citadels; Maids at the wheel, the weaver at his loom, Sit blithe and happy; bees that soar for bloom, High as the highest Peak of Furness-fells, Will murmur by the hour in foxglove bells: In truth the prison, unto which we doom Ourselves, no prison is: and hence for me, In sundry moods, 'twas pastime to be bound Within the Sonnet's scanty plot of ground; Pleased if some Souls (for such there needs must be) Who have felt the weight of too much liberty, Should find brief solace there, as I have found.

To Sleep.

FOND words have oft been spoken to thee, Sleep! And thou hast had thy store of tenderest names; The very sweetest Fancy culls or frames, When thankfulness of heart is strong and deep! Dear Bosom-child we call thee, that dost steep In rich reward all suffering; Balm that tames All anguish: Saint that evil thoughts and aims Takest away, and into souls dost creep, Like to a breeze from heaven. Shall I alone. I surely not a man ungently made, Call thee worst Tyrant by which Flesh is crost? Perverse, self-willed to own and to disown, Mere slave of them who never for thee prayed, Still last to come where thou art wanted most!

To Sleep

A FLOCK of sheep that leisurely pass by,
One after one, the sound of rain, and bees
Murmung, the fall of rivers, winds and seas,
Smooth fields, white sheets of water, and pure sky,
I have thought of all by turns, and yet do lie
Sleepless, and soon the small birds' melodies
Must hear, first uttered from my orchard trees,
And the first cuckoos melancholy cry
Even thus last night, and two nights more, I lay,
And could not win thee, Sleep¹ by any stealth
So do not let me wear to night way
Without Thee what is all the morning's wealth?
Come, blessed barrier between day and day,
Dear mother of fresh thoughts and you so health!

Dear mother of fresh thoughts and joyous health!

The World is too much with Us

The world is too much with us, I hat and soon,
Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers
Little we see in Nature that is ours,
We have given our hearts away, a sordid boon!
This Sea that bares her bosom to the moon,
The winds that will be howhing it all hours,
And are up gathered now like sleeping flowers,
For this, for everything, we are cut of tune,
It moses us not—Great God! I d rather be
A Pagan suckled in a creed outworn,
So might I, standing on this pleasant lea,
Have glumpses that would mike me less forlorn,
Have sight of Proteus rising from the sea,
Or hear old Triton blow, his wreathed horn

Composed upon Westminster Bridge. Sept. 3, 1802

EARTH has not anything to show more fair:
Dull would he be of soul who could pass by
A sight so touching in its majesty:
This City now doth, like a garment, wear
The beauty of the morning: silent, bare,
Ships, towers, domes, theatres, and temples lie
Open unto the fields, and to the sky,
All bright and glittering in the smokeless air.
Never did sun more beautifully steep
In his first splendour, valley, rock, or hill;
Ne'er saw I, never felt, a calm so deep!
The river glideth at his own sweet will:
Dear God! the very houses seem asleep;
And all that mighty heart is lying still!

London, 1802.

MILTON! thou shouldst be living at this hour: England hath need of thee: she is a fen Of stagnant waters: altar, sword, and pen, Fireside, the heroic wealth of hall and bower, Have forfeited their ancient English dower Of inward happiness. We are selfish men; Oh! raise us up, return to us again; And give us manners, virtue, freedom, power. Thy soul was like a Star, and dwelt apart; Thou hadst a voice whose sound was like the sea: Pure as the naked heavens, majestic, free, So didst thou travel on life's common way, In cheerful godliness; and yet thy heart The lowiest duties on herself did lay.

Thought of a Briton on the Subjugation of

Two Voices are there, one is of the Sea, One of the Mountains, each a mighty voice. In both from age to age thou didst rejoice, They were thy chosen music, Liberty! There came a tyrant, and with holy glee Thou fought's agunst him,—but hast vainly striven Thou from thy Alpine holds at length art driven, Where not a torrent murmurs heard by thee —Of one deep bliss thine ear hith been bereft, Then cleave, O cleave to that which still is left—For, high sould Maid, what sorrow would it be That Mountain floods should thurder as before, And Ocean bellow from his rocky shore, And one mether awful Voice be heard by Thee!

He must be free or die

IT is not to be thought of that the Flood Of British freedom, which, to the open sea Of the worlds praise, from dark antiquity Hath flowed, 'with pomp of waters, unwithstood, Roused thought it be full often to a mood Which spurns the check of salutary bands, That this most famous Stream in bogs and sands Should perish, and to evil and to good Be lost for ever in our hills is hung Armoury of the invincible Knights of old We must be free or die, who speak the tongue That Shakespeare spake, the faith and morals hold Which Milton held—In every thing we are sprung Of Tarths first blood have titles manifold

Ode on Intimations of Immortality from Recollections of Early Childhood.

THERE was a time when meadow, grove, and stream, The earth, and every common sight,

To me did seem

Apparelled in celestial light, The glory and the freshness of a dream. It is not now as it hath been of yore;—

Turn wheresoe'er I may, By night or day,

The things which I have seen I now can see no more

The Rainbow comes and goes,
And lovely is the Rose,
The Moon doth with delight
Look round her when the heavens are bare,
Waters on a starry night
Are beautiful and fair;
The sunshine is a glorious birth;
But yet I know, where'er I go,

That there hath passed away a glory from the earth.

Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting: The Soul that rises with us, our life's Star, Hath had elsewhere its setting,

And cometh from afar:

Not in entire forgetfulness, And not in utter nakedness,

But trailing clouds of glory do we come

From God, who is our home

Heaven lies about us in our infancy!

Shades of the prison house begin to close Upon the growing Boy.

But he beholds the light, and whence it flows He sees it in his iov.

The Youth, who daily farther from the east Must travel still is Nature's Priest, And by the vision splendid Is on his way attended,

At length the Man perceives it die away, And fade into the light of common day

Earth fills her lap with pleasures of her own. Yearnings she bath in her own natural kind, And, even with something of a Mother's mind,

And no unworthy aim

The homely Nurse doth all she can To make her Foster-child, her inmate Man, Forget the glories he hath known, And that imperial palace whence he came

O joy! that in our embers Is something that doth live, That nature yet remembers

What was so fugitive!

The thought of our past years in me doth breed Perpetual Expediction not indeed For that which is most worthy to be blest,
Delight and liverty, the simple creed
Of Childhood, hether busy or at rest,
With new-fledge hope still fluttering in his breast —

Not for these I raise

The song of thanks and praise;
But for those obstinate questionings
Of sense and outward things,
Fallings from us, vanishings;

Blank misgivings of a Creature Moving about in worlds not realized, High instincts before which our mortal Nature Did tremble like a guilty Thing surprised:

But for those first affections,
Those shadowy recollections,
Which, be they what they may,
Are yet the fountain-light of all our day,

Are yet a master-light of all our seeing;

Uphold us, cherish, and have power to make Our noisy years seem moments in the being Of the eternal Silence: truths that wake,

To perish never:

Which neither listlessness, nor mad endeavour,

Nor Man nor Boy,

Nor all that is at enmity with joy, Can utterly abolish or destroy!

Hence in a season of calm weather

Though inland far we be,

Our Souls have sight of that immortal sea

Which brought us hither,

Can in a moment travel thither,
And see the Children sport upon the shore,
And hear the mighty waters rolling evermore....

Three Years She grew

THREE years she grew in sun and shower, Then Nature said, 'A lovelier flower On earth was never sown, This Child I to myself will take, She shall be mine, and I will make A Lady of my own

'Myself will to my darling be Both law and impulse and with me The Girl, in rock and plain, In earth and heaven, in glade and bower, Shall feel an overseeing power To kindle or restrain

She shall be sportive as the fawn That wild with glee across the lawn Or up the mountain springs, And hers shall be the breathing balm,

And hers the silence and the calm
Of mute insensate things
'The floating clouds their state shall lend

To her, for her the willow bend, Nor shall she ful to see Een in the motions of the Storm Grace that shall mould the Maiden's form By silent sympathy

'The stars of midnight shall be dear To her, and she shall lean her ear In many a secret place Where rivulets dance their wayward round, And beauty born of murmuring sound Shall pass into her face.

'And vital feelings of delight
Shall rear her form to stately height,
Her virgin bosom swell;
Such thoughts to Lucy I will give
While she and I together live
Here in this happy dell.'

Thus Nature spake—The work was done—How soon my Lucy's race was run! She died, and left to me
This heath, this calm, and quiet scene;
The memory of what has been,
And never more will be.

SIR WALTER SCOTT

1771-1832

Brignall Banks.

O BRIGNALL banks are wild and fair,
And Greta woods are green,
And you may gather garlands there
Would grace a summer queen.
And as I rode by Dalton Hall
Beneath the turrets high,
A Maiden on the castle wall
Was singing merrily:—

SIR WALTER SCOTE

78

'O, Brignall banks are fresh and fur, And Greta woods are green, I'd rather rove with Edmund there Than regen our English queen

If, Maden, thou wouldst wend with me, To leave both tower and town, Thou first must guess what life lead we, That dwell by dale and down, And if thou canst that riddle read, As read full well you may, Then to the greenwood shalt thou speed As bluthe as Queen of May Yet song she, 'Heigarill banks are fair, And Greet woods are green, I'd ruther rose with Edmund there Than regno mur English queen

'I read you, by your bugle horn,
And by your pulfrey good
I read you for a ranger sworn
To keep the king's greenwood
'A runger, lady, winds his horn,
And its at peep of light,
Ilis blast is beard at merry morn,
And mine at dead of night
'et sung she, 'litignall lanks are fur,
And Great woods re gay,
I would I were with Edmund there
To reign his Owen of Max'

'With burnish'd brand and musketoon
So gallantly you come,
I read you for a bold Dragoon
That lists the tuck of drum.'
'I list no more the tuck of drum,
No more the trumpet hear;
But when the beetle sounds his hum,
My comrades take the spear.
And O! though Brignall banks be fair
And Greta woods be gay,
Yet mickle must the maiden dare,
Would reign my Queen of May!

'Maiden! a nameless life I lead,
A nameless death I'll die;
The fiend whose lantern lights the mead
Were better mate than I!
And when I'm with my comrades met
Beneath the greenwood bough,
What once we were we all forget,
Nor think what we are now.'

Chorus.

'Yet Brignall banks are fresh and fair, And Greta woods are green, And you may gather garlands there Would grace a summer queen.'

SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGL

1772-1834

Kubla Khan

Is Sanadu did Kubla Khan A stately pleasure dome decree Where Alph the sacred river, ran Through caverns measureless to man

Down to 1 sunless set

So twice five miles of fertile ground

With walls and towers were girdled round

And here were gardens bright with sinuous rills

Where blossomed many an incense bearing tree,

And here were forests ancient as the hills,

Enfolding sunny spots of greenery

Enfolding sunny spots of greenery.

But oh! that deep romantic chum which slinted Down the green hill uthwart a cedarn cover! A savage place! is holy and ench inted As eer beneath a waning moon was haunted By woman walling for her demon fover! And from this chash, with esseless furmoil seething, As if this earth in fast thick pands were breathing, A mighty fountain momently we forced Amid whose swift half everimented burst. Huge fragments vaulted hite in Jounding hail, Or chaff, grain beneath the the selects fluid And mid these dancing rocks at once and ever lift fluig up momently the sacred river. Five miles meandering with a muy motion. Through wood and dale the sacred river are said.

Then reached the caverns measureless to man, And sank in tumult to a lifeless ocean: And 'mid this tumult Kubla heard from far Ancestral voices prophesying war!

The shadow of the dome of pleasure
Floated midway on the waves;
Where was heard the mingled measure
From the fountain and the caves.
It was a miracle of rare device,
A sunny pleasure-dome with caves of ice!

A damsel with a dulcimer In a vision once I saw: It was an Abyssinian maid, And on her dulcimer she played, Singing of Mount Abora. Could I revive within me Her symphony and song, To such a deep delight 'twould win me, That with music loud and long, I would build that dome in air, That sunny dome! those caves of ice! And all who heard should see them there, And all should cry, Beware! Beware! His flashing eyes, his floating hair! Weave a circle round him thrice. And close your eyes with holy dread, For he on honey-dew hath fed, And drank the milk of Paradise.

EBENEZER FILIOTT

1781-1849

Battle Sone

Day, like our souls, is fiercely dark, What then? 'Tis day!

We sleep no more, the cock crows—hark!

To arms! away!

They come! they come! the knell is rung
Of us or them.

Wide o er their march the pomp is flung Of gold and gem

What collard hound of lawless sway, To famine dear—

What pension d slave of Attila, Leads in the rear?

Come they from Scythian wilds afar, Our blood to spill?

We'r they the livery of the Czar?
They do his will

Nor tassell'd silk, nor epaulet, Nor plume, nor torse-

No splendour gilds, all sternly met, Our foot and horse

But, dark and still we inly glow, Condensed in ire!

Strike, tandry slaves, and ye shall know Our gloom is fire

In vain your pomp ye evil powers, Insults the land, Wrongs, vengeance, and the Cause are ours,
And God's right hand!

Madmen! they trample into snakes
The wormy clod!

Like fire, beneath their feet awakes
The sword of God!

Behind, before, above, below,
They rouse the brave;

Where'er they go, they make a foe,
Or find a graye.

GEORGE GORDON BYRON, LORD BYRON

1788-1824

Waterloo.

THERE was a sound of revelry by night,
And Belgium's capital had gather'd then
Her Beauty and her Chivalry, and bright
The lamps shone o'er fair women and brave men;
A thousand hearts beat happily; and when
Music arose with its voluptuous swell,
Soft eyes look'd love to eyes which spake again,
And all went merry as a marriage bell;
But hush! hark! a deep sound strikes like a rising
knell!

Did ye not hear it?—No; 'twas but the wind, Or the car rattling o'er the stony street; On with the dance! let joy be unconfined; No sleep till morn, when Youth and Pleasure meet To chase the glowing Hours with flying feet—

84 GFORGI GORDON BYRON, I ORD BYRON

But hark!—that herey sound breaks in once more. As if the clouds its echo would repeat; And nearer, clearer, deadher than before! Arm' Arm' it is—it is—the cannon's opening roat!

Within a windowd niche of that high hall Sate Brunswick's fated chiefiain, he did hear That sound the first amidst the festival, And crught its tone with Death's prophetic car, And when they smiled because he deem'd it near, Itis heart more truly heav that peal too well. Which stretchd his futher on a bloody ber, And roused the vengeance blood alone could quelly. He rush'd into the field, and, foremost fighting, fell.

Aht then and there was bureying to and for, And grithering tears, and tremblings of distress. And checks all pale, which but an hour ago Blushd at the praise of their own loveliness, And there were sudden partings, such as press. The life from out young hearts and cholang sighs. Which ne er might be repeated, who could gress if ever more should meet those mutual eyes,

Since upon night so sweet such awful morn could rise!

And there was mounting in hot haste the steed, The mustering squadron, and the clattering car, Went pouring forward with impetuous speed, And swiftly formit's in the ranks of war, And the deep thunder peal on peal afar,

And near, the beat of the alarming drum Roused up the soldier ere the morning star; While throng'd the citizens with terror dumb, Or whispering, with white lips—'The foe! they come! they come!'

And wild and high the 'Cameron's gathering 'rose! The war-note of Lochiel, which Albyn's hills Have heard, and heard, too, have her Saxon foes:-How in the noon of night that pibroch thrills, Savage and shrill! But with the breath which fills Their mountain-pipe, so fill the mountaineers With the fierce native daring which instils The stirring memory of a thousand years, And Evan's, Donald's fame rings in each clansman's ears !

And Ardennes waves about them her green leaves, Dewy with nature's tear-drops as they pass, Grieving, if aught inanimate e'er grieves, Over the unreturning brave,-alas! Ere evening to be trodden like the grass Which now beneath them, but above shall grow In its next verdure, when this fiery mass Of living valour, rolling on the foe

And burning with high hope, shall moulder cold and low.

Last noon beheld them full of lusty life, Last eve in Beauty's circle proudly gay, The midnight brought the signal-sound of strife, The morn the marshalling in arms,—the day Battle's magnificently stern array!

86 GEORGE GORDON BYRON, LORD BYRON

The thunder clouds close o er it, which when rent The earth is covered thick with other clay, Which her own clay shall cover, heap'd and pent,

Rider and horse,—friend, foe,—in one red burnal blent!

Childe Harold, III xxi-xxviii

PERCY BYSSHE SHILLEY

1792-1522

Invocation

RARFLY, rarely, comest thou, Spirit of Delight! Wherefore hast thou left me now Many a day and night? Many a weary night and day Tis since thou art fled away

How shall ever one like me
Win thee back again?
With the Joyous and the free
Thou wilt scoff at pain
Spirit false! thou hast forgot
All but those who need thee not

As a lirard with the shade
Of a trembling leaf,
Thou with sorrow art dismayed,
Even the sighs of grief
Reproach thee, that thou art not near,
And reproach thou wilt not hear

Let me set my mournful ditty

To a merry measure;

Thou wilt never come for pity,

Thou wilt come for pleasure;

Pity then will cut away

Those cruel wings, and thou wilt stay.

I love all that thou lovest,
Spirit of Delight!
The fresh Earth in new leaves dressed,
And the starry night;
Autumn evening, and the morn

I love snow, and all the forms
Of the radiant frost;
I love waves, and winds, and storms,
Everything almost
Which is Nature's, and may be
Untainted by man's misery.

When the golden mists are born.

I love tranquil solitude,
And such society
As is quiet, wise, and good;
Between thee and me
What difference? but thou dost possess
The things I seek, not love them less.

I love Love—though he has wings,
And like light can flee,
But above all other things,
Spirit, I love thee—
Thou art love and life! Oh, come,
Make once more my heart thy home.

To Night

Swiftly walk o'er the western wave, Spirit of Night!

Out of the misty eastern cave,

Where, all the long and lone daylight, Thou wovest dreams of joy and fear, Which make thee terrible and dear,—

Swift be thy flight!

Wrap thy form in a mantle gray, Star inwrought!

Blind with thine hair the eyes of Diy, Kiss her until she be werried out, Then wander o er city, and sea, and land, Touching all with thine opine wand—

Come, long sought! When I arose and saw the dawn.

I sight for thee,

When light rode high, and the dew was gone, And noon lay heavy on flower and tree, And the weary Dy turned to his rest, Lingering like an unloved guest,

I sighed for thee

Thy brother Death came, and cried, Wouldst thou me?

Thy sweet child Sleep, the filmy eyed, Murmured like a noontide bee, Shall I nestle new thy side?
Wouldst thou me?—And I replied,
No, not thee!

Death will come when thou art dead,
Soon, too soon—
Sleep will come when thou art fled;
Of neither would I ask the boon
I ask of thee, beloved Night—
Swift be thine approaching flight,
Come soon, soon!

Hymn of Pan.

т

FROM the forests and highlands
We come, we come;
From the river-girt islands,
Where loud waves are dumb
Listening to my sweet pipings.
The wind in the reeds and the rushes,
The bees on the bells of thyme,
The birds on the myrtle bushes,
The cicale above in the lime,
And the lizards below in the grass,
Were as silent as ever old Tmolus was,
Listening to my sweet pipings.

П

Liquid Peneus was flowing,
And all dark Tempe lay
In Pelion's shadow, outgrowing
The light of the dying day,
Speeded by my sweet pipings.
The Sileni, and Sylvans, and Fauns,
And the Nymphs of the woods and the waves,

To the edge of the moist river lawns, And the brink of the dewy caves, And all that did then attend and follow, Were silent with love, as you now, Apollo, With envy of my sweet funners

111

I sang of the dancing stars,
I sang of the dacdal Earth,
And of Heaven—and the giant wars,
And Love and Death, and Birth,—
And then I changed my pipings,—
Singing how down the vile of Macnalus
I pursued a maiden and thisped a reed
Gods and men, we are all deluded thus!
It breaks in our bosom and then we bleed
All wept, as I think both ye now would,
If envy or age had not frozen your blood,
At the sorrow of my sweet pipings

Ode to the West II and

O WILD West Wind, thou breath of Autumn's being, Thou, from whose unseen presence the leaves dead Are driven, like ghosts from an enchanter fleeing, Yellow, and black, and pale, and hectic red, Pestilence stricken multitudes O thou, Who charotest to their dark wintry bed The winged seeds, where they lie cold and low, Each like a corpse within its grave, until

Thine azure sister of the Spring shall blow

Her clarion o'er the dreaming earth, and fill (Driving sweet buds like flocks to feed in air) With living hues and odours plain and hill:

Wild Spirit, which art moving everywhere; Destroyer and preserver; hear, oh, hear!

11

Thou on whose stream, 'mid the steep sky's commotion,

Loose clouds like earth's decaying leaves are shed, Shook from the tangled boughs of Heaven and Ocean,

Angels of rain and lightning: there are spread On the blue surface of thine aëry surge, Like the bright hair uplifted from the head

Of some fierce Maenad, even from the dim verge Of the horizon to the zenith's height, The locks of the approaching storm. Thou dirge

Of the dying year, to which this closing night Will be the dome of a vast sepulchre, Vaulted with all thy congregated might

Of vapours, from whose solid atmosphere Black rain, and fire, and hail will burst: oh, hear

Ш

Thou who didst waken from his summer dreams The blue Mediterranean, where he lay, Lulled by the coil of his crystalline streams, Beside a pumice isle in Baiae's bay, And saw in sleep old palaces and towers Ouvering within the wave's intenser day,

All overgrown with azure moss and flowers So sweet, the sense faints picturing them! Thou For whose path the Atlantic's level powers

Cleave themselves into chasms, while far below The sea-blooms and the oozy woods which wear The sailess foliage of the ocean, know

The sapiess to age of the ocean, know

Thy voice and suddenly grow grey with fear,

Thy voice and suddenly grow grey with fear, And tremble and despoil themselves oh, hear!

11

If I were a dead leaf thou mightest bear,
If I were a swift cloud to fly with thee,
A wave to pant beneath thy power, and share

A wave to pant beneath thy power, and share The impulse of thy strength, only kss free

Than thou, O uncontrollable! If even I were as in my boyhood, ind could be

The comrade of thy wanderings over Heaven, As then, when to outstrip thy skiey speed. Scarce seemed a vision, I would ne'er have striven

As thus with thee in prayer in my sore need Oh, lift me as a wave, a leaf, a cloud! I fall upon the thorns of life! I bleed!

A heavy weight of hours has chained and bowed One too like thee tameless, and swift, and proud V

Make me thy lyre, even as the forest is: What if my leaves are falling like its own! The tumult of thy mighty harmonies

Will take from both a deep, autumnal tone, Sweet though in sadness. Be thou, Spirit fierce, My spirit! be thou me, impetuous one!

Drive my dead thoughts over the universe Like withered leaves to quicken a new birth! And, by the incantation of this verse,

Scatter, as from an unextinguished hearth Ashes and sparks, my words among mankind! Be through my lips to unawakened earth

The trumpet of a prophecy! O, Wind, If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?

Stanzas written in dejection, near Naples.

The sun is warm, the sky is clear,

The waves are dancing fast and bright,
Blue isles and snowy mountains wear

The purple noon's transparent might,
The breath of the moist air is light,
Around its unexpanded buds;
Like many a voice of one delight,
The winds, the birds, the ocean floods,
The City's voice itself, is soft like Solitude's.

PERCY BYSSHE SHELLEY

01

I see the Deep's untrampled floor
With green and purple seaweeds strown,
I see the waves upon the shore,
Like light dissolved in star-showers, thrown
I st upon the sands alone.
The lightning of the noonude ocean

The lightning of the noontide ocean
Is flashing round me, and a tone

Arises from its measured motion, How sweet! did any heart now share in my emotion

Adonais

I WEEP for Adonas—he is dead 'O, weep for Adonas' though our tears Thaw not the frost which binds so dear a head 'And thou, sad Hour, selected from all years To mourn our loss, rouse thy obscure comperts, And teach them thine own sorrow, say 'With me Died Adonass, till the Future dares Forcet the Past, his fare and fame shall be

Forget the Past, his fate and fame shall be An echo and a light unto eternity! Where wert thou, mights Mother, when he lay,

When thy Son Ia), pierced by the shaft which flies In darkness? where was lorn Urania When Adonas died? With veiled eyes, Mid listening Echoes, in her Pandise She sate, while one, with soft enamoured breath, Rekindled ill the fading melodies,

With which, like flowers that mock the corse beneath,

He had adorned and hid the coming bulk of Death

Oh, weep for Adonais—he is dead!

Wake, melancholy Mother, wake and weep!

Yet wherefore? Quench within their burning bed
Thy fiery tears, and let thy loud heart keep
Like his, a mute and uncomplaining sleep;
For he is gone, where all things wise and fair
Descend;—oh, dream not that the amorous Deep
Will yet restore him to the vital air;
Death feeds on his mute voice, and laughs at our
despair. . . .

Peace, peace! he is not dead, he doth not sleep—
He hath awakened from the dream of life—
'Tis we, who lost in stormy visions, keep
With phantoms an unprofitable strife,
And in mad trance, strike with our spirit's knife
Invulnerable nothings.—We decay
Like corpses in a charnel; fear and grief
Convulse us and consume us day by day,
And cold hopes swarm like worms within our living
clay.

He has outsoared the shadow of our night;
Envy and calumny and hate and pain,
And that unrest which men miscall delight,
Can touch him not and torture not again;
From the contagion of the world's slow stain
He is secure, and now can never mourn
A heart grown cold, a head grown gray in vain;
Nor, when the spirit's self has ceased to burn,
With sparkless ashes load an unlamented urn. . . .

He is made one with Nature there is heard His voice in all her music, from the moan Of thunder, to the song of night's sweet bird, He is a presence to be felt and known In darkness and in light, from herb and stone, Spreading itself where er that Power may move Which has withdrawn his being to its own,

Which wields the world with never wearied love, Sustains it from beneath, and kindles it above,

He is a portion of the loveliness Which once he made more lovely he doth bear His part, while the one Spirit's plastic stress Sweeps through the dull dense world, compelling

there.

All new successions to the forms they wear, Torturing th unwilling dross that checks its flight To its own likeness, as each mass may bear, And bursting in its beauty and its might From trees and beasts and men into the Heaven's light

The Cloud

I BRING fresh showers for the thirsting flowers From the seas and the streams. I hear light shade for the leaves when laid

In their noonday dreams

From my wings are shaken the dews that waken The sweet buds every one,

When rocked to rest on their mother's breast, As she dances about the sun

I wield the flail of the lashing hail,
And whiten the green plains under,
And then again I dissolve it in rain,
And laugh as I pass in thunder.

I sift the snow on the mountains below, And their great pines groan aghast;

And all the night 'tis my pillow white, While I sleep in the arms of the blast.

Sublime on the towers of my skiey bowers, Lightning my pilot sits;

In a cavern under is fettered the thunder, It struggles and howls at fits;

Over earth and ocean, with gentle motion, This pilot is guiding me,

Lured by the love of the genii that move In the depths of the purple sea;

Over the rills, and the crags, and the hills, Over the lakes and the plains,

Wherever he dream, under mountain or stream, The Spirit he loves remains;

And I all the while bask in Heaven's blue smile, Whilst he is dissolving in rains.

The sanguine Sunrise, with his meteor eyes, And his burning plumes outspread,

Leaps on the back of my sailing rack,
When the morning star shines dead;

As on the jag of a mountain crag,
Which an earthquake rocks and swings,

An eagle alit one moment may sit In the light of its golden wings.

PERCY RYSSHL SHELLEY

And when Sunset may breathe, from the lit sea beneath,

Its ardours of rest and of love, And the crimson pall of eve may fall From the depth of Heaven above.

80

With wings folded I rest, on mine very nest, As still as a broading dove

As still as a brooding dove

Whom mortals call the Moon, Glides glimmering oer my fleece-like floor,

By the midnight breezes strewn, And wherever the beat of her unseen feet,

Which only the angels hear, May have broken the woof of my tents thin roof,

The stars peep behind her and peer, And I laugh to see them whitl and flee,

Like a swarm of golden bees, When I widen the rent in my wind built tent,

Till the calm rivers lakes, and seas,

Like strips of the sky fallen through me on high, Are each paved with the moon and these

I bind the Sun's throne with a burning zone, And the Moon's with a girdle of pearl, The volcanoes are dim, and the star reel and swim,

When the whirlwinds my banner unfurl From cape to cape, with a bridge-like shape,

Over a torrent sea
Sunbeam proof, I hang like a roof, —
The mountains its columns be

The triumphal arch through which I march With hurricane, fire, and snow,

When the Powers of the air are chained to my chair, Is the million-coloured bow;

The sphere-fire above its soft colours wove, While the moist Earth was laughing below.

I am the daughter of Earth and Water, And the nursling of the Sky;

I pass through the pores of the ocean and shores; I change, but I cannot die.

For after the rain when with never a stain The pavilion of Heaven is bare,

And the winds and sunbeams with their convex gleams

Build up the blue dome of air,

I silently laugh at my own cenotaph, And out of the caverns of rain.

Like a child from the womb, like a ghost from the tomb,

I arise and unbuild it again.

FELICIA DOROTHEA HEMANS

1793-1835

The Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers in New England.

THE breaking waves dash'd high
On a stern and rock-bound coast,
And the woods against a stormy sky
Their giant branches toss'd;

100 FELICIA DOROTHLA HIMANS

And the heavy night hung dark, The hills and waters o'er.

When a band of exiles moord their bark
On the wild New England shore

On the wild New England shore

Not as the conqueror comes.

They the true hearted, came,

Not with the roll of the stirring drums, And the trumpet that sings of fame,

Not as the flying come

In silence and in fear,They shook the depths of the desert gloom

With their hymns of lofty cheer

Amidst the storm they sang And the stars heard and the sea,

And the stars neard and the sea,

And the sounding usles of the dim woods rang

To the authem of the free!

The ocean eagle soard

From his nest by the white water foam,

And the rocking pines of the forest roard— This was their welcome home!

There were men with hours hair Amidst that pilgrim band,— Why had they come to wither there,

Why had they come to wither there, Away from their childhood's land

There wa woman's fearless eye, Lit by her deep loves truth,

There was manhoods brow serencly high, And the fiery heart of youth What sought they thus afar?
Bright jewels of the mine?
The wealth of seas, the spoils of war?—
They sought a faith's pure shrine!

Aye, call it holy ground,

The soil where first they trode.

They have left unstain'd what there they found —

Freedom to worship God.

JOHN KEATS

1795-1821

Ode to a Nightingale.

My heart aches, and a drowsy numbness pains
My sense, as though of hemlock I had drunk,
Or emptied some dull opiate to the drains
One minute past, and Lethe-wards had sunk:
Tis not through envy of thine happy lot,
But being too happy in thy happiness,—
That thou, light-wingèd Dryad of the trees,
In some melodious plot
Of beechen green, and shadows numberless,
Singest of summer in full-throated ease.

O, for a draught of vintage! that hath been Cool'd a long age in the deep-delyed earth, Tasting of Flora and the country green, Dance, and Provençal song, and sunburnt mirth! O for a beaker full of the warm South, Full of the true, the blushful Hippocrene,

With beaded bubbles winking at the brim, And purple stained mouth,

That I might drink, and leave the world un seen, And with thee fade away into the forest dim

Finde far away, dissolve, and quite forget What thou among the leaves hast never known,

The weattness, the fever, and the fret

Here, where men sit and hear each other groan, Where palsy shakes a few, sad, last gray burs,

Where palsy shakes a few, sad, last gray hairs,
Where youth grows pale, and spectre-thin and dies,
Where but to think is to be full of sorrow

And leaden eyed despairs,

Where Beauty cannot keep her lustrous eyes, Or new Love pine at them beyond to morrow

Away ' away ' for I will fly to thee,

Not charioted by Bacchus and his pards,

But on the menter water of Peer.

But on the viewless wings of Poess,

Though the dull brain perplexes and retards Already with thee! tender is the night,

And haply the Queen Moon is on her throne, Cluster d around by all her starry Fays,

But here there is no light, Save what from heaven is with the breezes blown Through verdurous glooms and winding mossy ways

I cannot see what flowers are at my feet Nor what soft incense hangs upon the boughs, But, in embalmed darkness, guess each sweet Wherewith the seasonable month endows The grass, the thicket, and the fruit-tree wild;
White hawthorn, and the pastoral eglantine;
Fast fading violets cover'd up in leaves;
And mid-May's eldest child,
The coming musk-rose, full of dewy wine,
The murmurous haunt of flies on summer eyes.

Darkling I listen; and, for many a time
I have been half in love with easeful Death,
Call'd him soft names in many a musèd rhyme,
To take into the air my quiet breath;
Now more than ever seems it rich to die,
To cease upon the midnight with no pain,
While thou art pouring forth thy soul abroad
In such an ecstasy!

Still wouldst thou sing, and I have ears in vain--To thy high requiem become a sod.

Thou wast not born for death, immortal Bird!

No hungry generations tread thee down;
The voice I hear this passing night was heard
In ancient days by emperor and clown:
Perhaps the self-same song that found a path
Through the sad heart of Ruth, when, sick for home,
She stood in tears amid the alien corn;
The same that oft-times hath
Charm'd magic casements, opening on the foam
Of perilous seas, in faery lands forlorn.

Forlorn! the very word is like a bell

To toll me back from thee to my sole self!

Adieu! the fancy cannot cheat so well

As she is fam'd to do, deceiving elf.

Adicu! rdicu! thy plantine anthem fuds
Pist the near meadows, over the still strein,
Up the hill side, and now 'its buried deep
In the next valley glades
Was it a vision, or a waking dream?
I led a that music—Do! wike or sleep?

To Autumn

SEASON of mists and mellow fruitfulness, Close bosom friend of the maturing sun, Conspiring with him how to lord and bless With fruit the vines that round the thatch eaves

run,
To bend with apples the mossd cottage trees,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core,
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells

With a sweet kernel, to set budding more, And still more, later flowers for the bees,

Until they think warm days will never cease, for Summer has o er brimm d their claiming cells

Who hath not seen thee off amid thy store? Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find Thee sitting careless on a grinary floor.

Thy hair soft lifted by the winnowing wind Or on a half reap'd furrow sound asleep

Drows d with the fume of poppies, while thy hook Spares the next swath and all its twined flowers

And sometimes like a gleaner thou dost keep

Steady thy laden head across a brook; Or by a cyder-press, with patient look, Thou watchest the last oozings hours by hours.

Where are the songs of Spring? Ay, where are they?
Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,—
While barrèd clouds bloom the soft-dying day,
And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue;
Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn
Among the river sallows, borne aloft
Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;
And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;
Hedge-crickets sing; and now with treble soft
The red-breast whistles from a garden-croft;
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.

On first looking into Chapman's Homer.

Much have I travell'd in the realms of gold
And many goodly states and kingdoms seen;
Round many western islands have I been
Which bards in fealty to Apollo hold.

Oft of one wide expanse had I been told
That deep-brow'd Homer ruled as his demesne;
Yet did I never breathe its pure serene
Till I heard Chapman speak out loud and bold:
Then felt I like some watcher of the skies
When a new planet swims into his ken;
Or like stout Cortez when with eagle eyes
He star'd at the Pacific—and all his men
Look'd at each other with a wild surmise—
Silent, upon a peak in Darien.

Ode

BARDS of Passion and of Marth. Ye have left your souls on earth! Have ve souls in heaven too. Double lived in regions new? Yes, and those of heaven commune With the spheres of sun and moon, With the noise of fountains wond'rous And the parle of voices thundrous, With the whisper of heaven's trees And one another, in soft ease Serted on Elysian lawns Brows'd by none but Dian's fawns. Underneath large blue bells tented, Where the daisies are rose scented, And the rose herself has got Perfume which on earth is not. Where the nightingale doth sing Not a senseless, tranced thing, But divine melodious truth. Philosophic numbers smooth, Tales and golden histories Of heaven and its mysteries

Thus ye live on high, and then On the earth ye live again, And the souls ye left behind you Teach us, here, the way to find you, Where your other souls are joying, Never slumberd, never cloying.

Here, your earth-born souls still speak To mortals, of their little week; Of their sorrows and delights; Of their passions and their spites; Of their glory and their shame; What doth strengthen and what maim. Thus ye teach us, every day, Wisdom, though fled far away.

Bards of Passion and of Mirth, Ye have left your souls on earth! Ye have souls in heaven too, Double-lived in regions new!

La Belle Dame sans Merci.

- 'O WHAT can ail thee, knight-at-arms, Alone and palely loitering? The sedge has wither'd from the Lake, And no birds sing.
- 'O what can ail thee, knight-at-arms!
 So haggard and so woebegone?
 The squirrel's granary is full,
 And the harvest's done.
- 'I see a lily on thy brow
 With anguish moist and fever dew,
 And on thy cheeks a fading rose
 Fast withereth too.'

- "I met a Lady in the Meads. Full beautiful-a fury a child, Her hair was long her foot was light, And her eyes were wild
- 'I made a garland for her head, and bracelets too, and fragrant zone, She look d at me as she did love,
- And made sweet moan
- 'I set her on my pacing steed And nothing else saw all day long. for sidelong would she bend, and sing A fairs s song
 - 'She found me roots of relish sweet. And honey wild and manna dew. And sure in language strange she said I love thee true
 - 'She took me to her elfin grot, And there she guzed, and sigh d full sore. And there I shut her wild wild eyes With Lisses four
 - 'And there she lulled me asleen. And there I dream d-Ah! woe betide! The latest dream I ever dreamed
 - On the cold bills side 'I saw pale Kings and Princes too. Pale warriors, death pale were they all.

They cried- La belle Dame sans Merci Hath thee in thrall!

'I saw their starved lips in the gloam With horrid warning gapèd wide, And I awoke and found me here On the cold hill's side.

'And this is why I sojourn here
Alone and palely loitering,
Though the sedge is wither'd from the Lake,
And no birds sing.'

ALFRED, LORD TENNYSON

1809-1892

The Lotos-eaters.

'COURAGE!' he said, and pointed toward the land, 'This mounting wave will roll us shoreward soon.' In the afternoon they came unto a land In which it seemed always afternoon. All round the coast the languid air did swoon, Breathing like one that hath a weary dream. Full-faced above the valley stood the moon; And like a downward smoke, the slender stream Along the cliff to fall and pause and fall did seem.

A land of streams! some, like a downward smoke, Slow-dropping veils of thinnest lawn, did go; And some thro' wavering lights and shadows broke, Rolling a slumbrous sheet of foam below. They saw the gleaming river seaward flow From the inner land: far off, three mountain-tops, Three silent pinnacles of aged snow, Stood sunset-flush'd: and, dew'd with showery drops, Up-clomb the shadowy pine above the woven copse.

ALFRLD, LORD TENNISON

110

The charmed sunset lingerd low adown In the red West thro mountain clefs the dale Was seen far inland, and the yellow down Border'd with palm, and many a winding vale And meadow, set with slender galingale, A land where all things always seem d the same! And round about the keel with faces pale, Dark faces pale against that rosy flame, The mild eyed melanchoily Loros caters came

Branches they bore of that enchanted stem, Laden with flower and fruit, whereof they give To each, but whoso did receive of them, And taste, to him the gushing of the wave Far far away did seem to mourn and rave On alien shores, and if his fellow spake, His voice wis thin, as voices from the grave, And deep-asleep he seem d, yet all awake, And muse in his cars his beating heart did make

They sat them down upon the yellow sand, Between the sun and moon upon the shore, And sweet it was to dream of Fathy-fland, Of child, and wife, and slave, but extermore Most weary seemd the sea, weary the oar, Weary the wandering fields of barren foam Then some one said, 'We will return' no more, And all at once they saig. 'Our island home is far beyond the wave, we will no 19, 211 Feb.

CHORIC SONG

Ţ

There is sweet music here that softer falls
Than petals from blown roses on the grass,
Or night-dews on still waters between walls
Of shadowy granite, in a gleaming pass;
Music that gentlier on the spirit lies,
Than tir'd eyelids upon tir'd eyes;
Music that brings sweet sleep down from the blissful skies.

Here are cool mosses deep,
And thro' the moss the ivies creep,
And in the stream the long-leaved flowers weep,
And from the craggy ledge the poppy hangs in sleep.

ΤŦ

Why are we weigh'd upon with heaviness,
And utterly consumed with sharp distress,
While all things else have rest from weariness?
All things have rest: why should we toil alone,
We only toil, who are the first of things,
And make perpetual moan,
Still from one sorrow to another thrown:
Nor ever fold our wings,
And cease from wanderings,
Nor steep our brows in slumber's holy balm;
Nor harken what the inner spirit sings,
'There is no joy but calm!'
Why should we only toil, the roof and crown of things?

111

Lo! in the middle of the wood from out the bud With winds upon the branch, and there Grows green and broad and takes no care, Sun steep da in noon, and in the moon Nightly dew fed, and turning sellow Falls, and floats adown the air Lo! sweetend with the summer light, The full juiced apple, waxing over-mellow, Drops in a silent autumn night All its allotted length of days, The flower ripens in its place, Ripens and fades, and falls and bath no toil, Fast rooted in the fruitful soil.

IV.

Hatefol is the dark blue sks,
Vulted o er the dark blue sea
Death is the end of lite, ah, why
Should life all labour be
Let us alone — Time driveth onward fast
And in a little while our lips are dumb
Let us alone— What is it that will last.
All things are taken from us and become
Portions and parcels of the dreadful Pist.
Let us alone— What pleasure can we have
To war with evil— Is there any peace
In ever climbing up the climbing wave?
All things have rest, and ripen toward the grave
In selence—ripen fall and cease
Give us long rest or death, dark death, or dreamful ease.

ν.

How sweet it were, hearing the downward stream, With half-shut eyes ever to seem Falling asleep in a half-dream!

To dream and dream, like yonder amber light, Which will not leave the myrrh-bush on the height; To hear each other's whisper'd speech; Eating the Lotos day by day,

To watch the crisping ripples on the beach, And tender curving lines of creamy spray;

To lend our hearts and spirits wholly

To the influence of mild-minded melancholy;

To muse and brood and live again in memory, With those old faces of our infancy

Heap'd over with a mound of grass,

Two handfuls of white dust, shut in an urn of brass!

VΙ

Dear is the memory of our wedded lives,
And dear the last embraces of our wives
And their warm tears: but all hath suffer'd change;
For surely now our household hearths are cold:
Our sons inherit us: our looks are strange:
And we should come like ghosts to trouble joy.
Or else the island princes over-bold
Have eat our substance, and the minstrel sings
Before them of the ten-years' war in Troy,
And our great deeds, as half-forgotten things.
Is there confusion in the little isle?
Let what is broken so remain.
The Gods are hard to reconcile:

ALLRED LORD TEXMSON

111

Tis hard to settle order once again There is confusion worse than death, Trouble on trouble, pain on pain, Long labour unto aged breath, Sore task to hearts worn out with many wars And eyes grown dim with gazing on the pilot stars

٩Π How sweet (while warm airs full us blowing lowly)

But propt on beds of amaranth and moly,

With half dropt evelids still, Beneath a heaven dark and holy, To watch the long bright river drawing slowly His waters from the purple hill-To hear the dewy echoes calling From case to case thro' the thick twined sine-

To witch the emerald colour d water falling Thro many a woy n acapthus wreath divine! Only to hear and see the far off sparkling brine, Only to hear were sweet, stretched out beneath the Dine

3 333

The Lotos blooms below the barren peak The Lotos blows by every winding creek All day the wind breathes low with mellower tone Thro every hollow cave and alley lone Round and round the spicy downs the yellow Lotos dust is blown

We have had enough of action, and of motion we, Roll d to starboard, roll d to larboard, when the surge was seething free,

Where the wallowing monster spouted his foam-fountains in the sea.

Let us swear an oath, and keep it with an equal mind, In the hollow Lotos-land to live and lie reclined

On the hills like Gods together, careless of mankind.

For they lie beside their nectar, and the bolts are hurl'd

Far below them in the valleys, and the clouds are lightly curl'd

Round their golden houses, girdled with the gleaming world:

Where they smile in secret, looking over wasted lands, Blight and famine, plague and earthquake, roaring deeps and fiery sands,

Clanging fights, and flaming towns, and sinking ships, and praying hands.

But they smile, they find a music centred in a doleful song

Steaming up, a lamentation and an ancient tale of wrong,

Like a tale of little meaning tho' the words are strong;

Chanted from an ill-used race of men that cleave the soil,

Sow the seed, and reap the harvest with enduring toil,

Storing yearly little dues of wheat, and wine and oil; Till they perish and they suffer—some, 'tis whisper'd—down in hell

Suffer endless anguish, others in Elysian valleys dwell,

116 ALFRED, LORD TLNNYSON

Resting weary limbs at last on beds of asphodel Surely surely, slumber is more sweet than toil, the shore

Than labour in the deep mid-ocean, wind and wave and oar,

Oh rest ye, brother mariners, we will not wander more.

Utysses

IT little profits that an idle king, By this still hearth, among these barren crags, Match d with an aged wife, I mete and dole Unequal laws unto a savage race, That hoard and sleep and feed, and know not me I cannot rest from travel I will drunk Life to the lees all times I have enjoy d Greatly, have suffer d greatly, both with those That loved me and alone, on shore and when Thro scudding drifts the rains Hyades Vext the dim sea I am become a name For always roaming with a hungry heart Much have I seen and known cities of men And manners climates councils, governments, Myself not least, but honourd of them all. And drunk delight of battle with my peers. Far on the ringing plains of windy Troy I am a part of all that I have met, Let all experience is an arch wherethro' Gleams that untravell'd world, whose margin fades For ever and for ever when I move

How dull it is to pause, to make an end,
To rust unburnish'd, not to shine in use!
As tho' to breathe were life. Life piled on life
Were all too little, and of one to me
Little remains: but every hour is saved
From that eternal silence, something more,
A bringer of new things; and vile it were
For some three suns to store and hoard myself,
And this grey spirit yearning in desire
To follow knowledge like a sinking star,
Beyond the utmost bound of human thought.

This is my son, mine own Telemachus,
To whom I leave the sceptre and the isle—
Well-loved of me, discerning to fulfil
This labour, by slow prudence to make mild
A rugged people, and thro' soft degrees
Subdue them to the useful and the good.
Most blameless is he, centred in the sphere
Of common duties, decent not to fail
In offices of tenderness, and pay
Meet adoration to my household gods,
When I am gone. He works his work, I mine.

There lies the port: the vessel puffs her sail:
There gloom the dark broad seas. My mariners,
Souls that have toil'd, and wrought, and thought
with me—

That ever with a frolic welcome took
The thunder and the sunshine, and opposed
Free hearts, free foreheads—you and I are old;
Old age hath yet his honour and his toil;
Death closes all: but something ere the end,

118 ALFRED, LORD TENNISON

Some work of noble note, mry yet be done, Not unbecoming men that strove with Gods. The lights begin to twinkle from the rocks. The long day wanes the slow moon climbs the

Moans round with many voices. Come, my friends, Tis not too late to seek a newer world Push off, and sitting well in order smite. The sounding furrows, for my purpose holds. To sail beyond the sumset, and the baths. Of all the western stars, until 1 die. It may be that the gulfs will wash us down It may be we shall touch the Hippy Isles, And see the great Achilles, whom we knew. Tho much is taken, much shudes, and tho We are not now that strength which in old days. Moved earth and heaven, that which we are, we are, One equal temper of heroic hearts, Made weak by time and fate, but stronge in will.

The Satlor Box

To strive to seek, to find, and not to yield

He rose at dawn and, fired with hope, Shot o'er the seething harbour bar, And reach'd the ship and caught the rope, And whistled to the morning star

And while he whistled long and loud
He heard a fierce mermaiden cry,
'O boy, tho thou art young and proud,
I see the place where thou wilt lie

'The sands and yeasty surges mix In caves about the dreary bay, And on thy ribs the limpet sticks, And in thy heart the scrawl shall play.' 'Fool,' he answer'd, 'death is sure To those that stay and those that roam, But I will nevermore endure To sit with empty hands at home. 'My mother clings about my neck, My sisters crying "stay for shame;" My father raves of death and wreck, They are all to blame, they are all to blame. 'God help me! save I take my part Of danger on the roaring sea, A devil rises in my heart, Far worse than any death to me.'

From 'The Princess'.

THE splendour falls on castle walls
And snowy summits old in story:
The long light shakes across the lakes,
And the wild cataract leaps in glory.
Blow, bugle, blow, set the wild echoes flying,
Blow, bugle; answer, echoes, dying, dying, dying.

O hark, O hear! how thin and clear,
And thinner, clearer, farther going!
O sweet and far from cliff and scar
The horns of Elfland faintly blowing!
Blow, let us hear the purple glens replying:
Blow, bugle; answer, echoes, dying, dying, dying.

ALFRED, LORD TENNYSON

O love, they die in you rich sky,

They faint on hill or field or river
Our echoes roll from soul to soul.

120

And grow for ever and for ever Blow, bugle blow set the wild echoes flying, And answer, echoes, inswer, dying, dying, dying

The Eagle

HE clasps the crag with crooked hands, Close to the sun in lonely lands, Ring'd with the azure world, he stands

The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls, He watches from his mountain walls, And like a thunderbolt he falls

From the Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington'

Wito is he that cometh, like an honourd guest, With banner and with music, with soldier and with priest.

With a nation weeping, and breaking on my rest? Mighty Seaman, this is he Was great by land as thou by sea. Plune island loves thee well, thou famous man, The greatest sailor sance our world began Now, to the roll of muffled drums,

To thee the greatest soldier comes,

For this is he Was great by land as thou by sea; His foes were thine; he kept us free; O give him welcome, this is he Worthy of our gorgeous rites, And worthy to be laid by thee: For this is England's greatest son, He that gain'd a hundred fights, Nor ever lost an English gun; This is he that far away Against the myriads of Assaye Clash'd with his fiery few and won; And underneath another sun. Warring on a later day, Round affrighted Lisbon drew The treble works, the vast designs Of his labour'd rampart-lines, Where he greatly stood at bay, Whence he issued forth anew. And ever great and greater grew, Beating from the wasted vines Back to France her banded swarms, Back to France with countless blows, Till o'er the hills her eagles flew Past the Pyrenean pines, Follow'd up in valley and glen With blare of bugle, clamour of men, Roll of cannon and clash of arms. And England pouring on her foes. Such a war had such a close. Again their ravening eagle rose

ALTRED, LORD TI NN\SON 122

In anger, wheel'd on Europe-shadowing wings, And barking for the thrones of kings. Till one that sought but Duty's fron crown On that loud sabbath shook the spoiler down, A day of onsets of despur! Dish'd on every rocky square Their surging charges foamd themselves away, Last, the Prussian trumpet blew.

Thro the long tormented air Heaven flash d a sudden jubilant ray, And down we swept and charged and overthrew So great a soldier taught us there, What long enduring hearts could do In that world's earthquake, Waterloo! Mighty Seaman, tender and true, And pure as he from taint of craven guile, O saviour of the silver-coasted isle, O shaker of the Baltic and the Nile, If aught of things that here befall

Touch a spirit among things divine,

If love of country move thee there at all, Be glad, because his bones are laid by thine!

And thro' the centuries let a people's voice In full acclum.

A people's voice. The proof and echo of all human fame,

A people's voice, when they rejoice At civic revel and nomp and game, Attest their great commanders claim With honour, honour, honour to him, Eternal honour to his name

ROBERT BROWNING

1812-1889

Incident of the French Camp.

Ţ

You know, we French stormed Ratisbon:
A mile or so away
On a little mound, Napoleon
Stood on our storming-day;
With neck out-thrust, you fancy how,
Legs wide, arms locked behind,
As if to balance the prone brow
Oppressive with its mind.

11

Just as perhaps he mused 'My plans
That soar, to earth may fall,
Let once my army-leader Lannes
Waver at yonder wall,'—
Out 'twixt the battery-smokes there flew
A rider, bound on bound
Full-galloping; nor bridle drew
Until he reached the mound.

III

Then off there flung in smiling joy,
And held himself erect
By just his horse's mane, a boy:
You hardly could suspect—

(So tight he kept his lips compressed, Scarce any blood came through) You looked twice are you saw his breast Was all but shot in two

n

"Well," cried he, "Emperor, by God's grace We've got you Ratisbon! The Marshal's in the mirket place,

And you'll be there anon
To see your flag bird flap his vans
Where I, to heart's desire,
Perched him! The chief's eye flashed, his plans

Soared up again like fire

,

The chiefs eye flashed, but presently Softened itself, as sheathes A film the mother eagles eye When her bruised eaglet breathes 'You're wounded!' 'Nay, the soldier's pride Touched to the outch, he said

Im killed, Sire! And his chief beside, Smiling the boy fell dead

Prospice.

- FEAR death?—to feel the fog in my throat, The mist in my face,
- When the snows begin, and the blasts denote I am nearing the place,
- The power of the night, the press of the storm, The post of the foe:
- Where he stands, the Arch Fear in a visible form, Yet the strong man must go:
- For the journey is done and the summit attained, And the barriers fall,
- Though a battle 's to fight ere the guerdon be gained, The reward of it all.
- I was ever a fighter, so one fight more, The best and the last!
- I would hate that death bandaged my eyes, and forbore,
 - And bade me creep past.
- No! Let me taste the whole of it, fare like my peers The heroes of old,
- Bear the brunt, in a minute pay glad life's arrears Of pain, darkness and cold.
- For sudden the worst turns the best to the brave, The black minute's at end,
- And the elements' rage, the fiend-voices that rave, Shall dwindle, shall blend,
- Shall change, shall become first a peace out of pain, Then a light, then thy breast,
- O thou soul of my soul! I shall clasp thee again, And with God be the rest!

Home-Thoughts, from the Sea

NOBIA, nobly Cape Saint Vincent to the North West

died away , Sunset run, one glorious blood-red, reeking into Cadiz

Bay, Bluish mid the burning water, full in face Trafalgar

lay,

In the dimmest North Last distance, diwned Gibraliar grand and gray,

'Here and here did Lagland belo me, how can I help

Figland?—say,

Whose turns as I, this evening, turn to God to pruse and pray,

While Jove's planet rises yonder, silent over Africa.

Fram Saul

'Oil, our manhood's prime vigour! no spirit feels waste.

Not a muscle is stopped in its playing nor sinew unbraced

Oh, the wild joys of living! the leaping from rock up to rock—

The strong rending of boughs from the fir tree, -the cool silver shock

Of the plunge in a pools living water,—the hunt of the bear,

And the sultriness showing the lion is couched in his lair

- And the meal, the rich dates yellowed over with gold dust divine,
- And the locust's-flesh steeped in the pitcher, the full draught of wine,
- And the sleep in the dried river-channel where bulrushes tell
- That the water was wont to go warbling so softly and well.
- How good is man's life, the mere living! how fit to employ
- All the heart and the soul and the senses, for ever in joy! Hast thou loved the white locks of thy father, whose sword thou didst guard
- When he trusted thee forth with the armies, for glorious reward?
- Didst thou see the thin hands of thy mother, held up as men sung
- The low song of the nearly-departed, and heard her faint tongue
- Joining in while it could to the witness, "Let one more attest,
- I have lived, seen God's hand thro' a lifetime, and all was for best!"
- Then they sung thro' their tears in strong triumph, not much, but the rest.
- And thy brothers, the help and the contest, the working whence grew
- Such result as, from seething grape-bundles, the spirit strained true!
- And the friends of thy boyhood—that boyhood of wonder and hope,

Present promise and wealth of the future beyond the

Till lo, thou art grown to a monarch a people is

And all gifts which the world offers singly, on one

head combine!

On one head, all the beauty and strength love and

rage thic the throc

That, a work in the rock, helps its labour and lets the gold go)

High ambition and deeds which surpass it, fame erowning it -all

Brought to bluze on the head of one creature—King
Stul!

From Paracelsus

OVER the sea our galleys went With cleaving prows in order brave, Fo a speeding wind and a bounding wave, A callant armanent

Lach bark built out of a forest tree,

Laten that bould not of a forest tree,

I eft leafly and rough as first it grew,
And nailed all over the gaping sides,
Within and without with black bull hides,
Seethed in fat and suppled in flame,
So, each good ship was rude to see,
Rude and bare to the outward view,
But each upbore a stately tent

Where cedar pales in scented row

Kept out the flakes of the dancing brine, And an awning drooped the mast below, In fold on fold of the purple fine, That neither noontide nor starshine Nor moonlight cold which maketh mad,

Might pierce the regal tenement.
When the sun dawned, oh, gay and glad
We set the sail and plied the oar;
But when the night-wind blew like breath,
For joy of one day's voyage more,
We sang together on the wide sea,
Like men at peace on a peaceful shore;
Each sail was loosed to the wind so free,
Each helm made sure by the twilight star,
And in a sleep as calm as death,
We, the voyagers from afar,

Lay stretched along, each weary crew
In a circle round its wondrous tent
Whence gleamed soft light and curled rich scent,
And with light and perfume, music too:
So the stars wheeled round, and the darkness past,

And at morn we started beside the mast, And still each ship was sailing fast.

Now, one morn, land appeared—a speck Dim trembling betwixt sea and sky:

"Avoid it," cried our pilot, "check

"The shout, restrain the eager eye!"

But the heaving sea was black behind

For many a night and many a day,

And land, though but a rock, drew nigh;

ROBURT BROWNING

So, we broke the cedar pales away, Let the purple awang flap in the wind, And a statue hight was on every deck! We shouted, every man of us, And steered right into the harbour thus With poonp and piean glorious

130

A hundred shapes of lucid stone! All day we built its shrine for each, A shrine of rock for eacy one, 'Nor paused till in the westering sun We sat together on the beach. To sing because our task was done When lo' what shouts and merry songs! What laughter all the distance stirs! A loaded raft with happy throngs Of gentle slanders!

Our isles are just at hand 'they cried, 'Lake cloudlets faint in even sleeping, Our temple gates are opened wide, Our olive-groves thick shade are keeping For these majestic forms—they cried Oh, then we awoke with sudden start From our deep dream, and knew, too late,

How bare the rock, how desolate, Which had received our precious freight Yet we called out— Depart! Our gifts, once given, must here abide

Our gitts, once given, must here abide

Our work is done we have no heart

To may our work—we cried

to mar our work -we cree

Home Thoughts, from Abroad.

r

OH, to be in England
Now that April's there,
And whoever wakes in England
Sees, some morning, unaware,
That the lowest boughs and the brushwood sheaf
Round the elm-tree bole are in tiny leaf,
While the chaffinch sings on the orchard bough
In England—now!

Н

And after April, when May follows,
And the whitethroat builds, and all the swallows!
Hark, where my blossomed pear-tree in the hedge
Leans to the field and scatters on the clover
Blossoms and dewdrops—at the bent spray's edge—
That's the wise thrush; he sings each song twice over,
Lest you should think he never could recapture
The first fine careless rapture!
And though the fields look rough with hoary dew,
All will be gay when noontide wakes anew
The buttercups, the little children's dower
—Far brighter than this gaudy melon-flower!

CHARLES KINGSLEY

1819-1875

When all the world is young, lad, And all the trees are green; And every goose a swan, lad, And every lass a queen; Then hey for boot and horse, lad, And round the world away, Young blood must have its course, lad And every dog his day

When all the world is old, lad,
And all the rees are brown,
And all the sport is stale, lad,
And all the wheels run down
Creep home, and take your place there,
The spent and manned among
God grant you find one face there
You loved when all was young

ARTHUR HUGH CLOUGH

1819-1861

Say not, the struggle naught availeth,
The labour and the wounds are vain,
The enemy faints not, nor faileth,

The enemy faints not, nor faileth,

And as things have been they remain

If hopes were dupes, fears may be liars, It may be in you smoke concealed, Your comrades chase e'en now the fliers, And, but for you, possess the field

For while the tired waves, vainly breaking, Seem here no painful inch to gain, Far back, through creeks and inlets making, Comes silent, Booding in, the main And not by eastern windows only,
When daylight comes, comes in the light,
In front, the sun climbs slow, how slowly,
But westward, look, the land is bright!

WALT WHITMAN

1819-1892

O Captain! My Captain!

O CAPTAIN! my Captain! our fearful trip is done, The ship has weathered every rack, the prize we sought is won,

The port is near, the bells I hear, the people all exulting,

While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and daring;

But O heart! heart! heart!

O the bleeding drops of red, Where on the deck my Captain lies, Fallen cold and dead.

O Captain! my Captain! rise up and hear the bells; Rise up—for you the flag is flung—for you the bugle trills,

For you bouquets and ribboned wreaths—for you the shores a-crowding,

For you they call, the swaying mass, their eager faces turning;

Here Captain! dear father!

This arm beneath your head!

It is some dream that on the deck

You've fallen cold and dead.

My Captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still,

My father does not feel my arm, he has no pulse nor will,

The ship is anchored safe and sound, its voyage closed and done,

From fearful trip the victor ship comes in with object won.

Lxult, O shores, and ring, O bells!

But I, with mournful tread,

Walk the deck my Captain lies,

Fallen cold and dead

MATTHEW ARNOLD 1822-1888 From 'Rugby Chapel'

WHAT is the course of the life
Of mortal men on the earth?—
Most men eddy about
Here and there—eat and drink,
Chitter and love and hate,
Gather and squander, are raised
Aloft are hirld in the dust,
Striving blindly, achieving
Nothing, and then they die—
Perish, and no one asks
Who or what they have been,
More thin the saks what waves
In the moonht solitudes mild
Of the midmost Ocean, have swell d,
of the midmost Ocean, have swell d,

Foam d for a moment, and gone

And there are some, whom a thirst Ardent, unquenchable, fires, Not with the crowd to be spent, Not without aim to go round In an eddy of purposeless dust, Effort unmeaning and vain, Ah yes, some of us strive Not without action to die Fruitless, but something to snatch From dull oblivion, nor all Glut the devouring grave! We, we have chosen our path— Path to a clear-purposed goal, Path of advance! but it leads A long, steep journey, through sunk Gorges, o'er mountains in snow! Cheerful, with friends, we set forth; Then, on the height, comes the storm! Thunder crashes from rock To rock, the cataracts reply; Lightnings dazzle our eyes; Roaring torrents have breach'd The track, the stream-bed descends In the place where the wayfarer once Planted his footstep—the spray Boils o'er its borders; aloft, The unseen snow-beds dislodge Their hanging ruin;—alas, Havoc is made in our train! Friends who set forth at our side Falter, are lost in the storm!

We, we only, are left!
With frowning foreheads, with lips
Sternly compressed, we strum on,
On—and it inghtfull, at last,
Come to the end of our way.
To the lonely inn mid the rocks,
Where the gaunt and tacturn Host
Stands on the threshold, the wind
Shaking his thin white hairs—
Holds his lantern to scan
Our storm beat figures, and asks
Whom in our party we bring?

Sadly we answer We bring Only ourselves, we lost Sight of the rest in the storm Hardly ourselves we fought through, Strippd, without friends, as we are Friends, companions, and train The avalanche swept from our side

WILLIAM MORRIS

1834-1896

Prologue to ' The Earthly Paradise'

FORGET SIX counties overhung with smoke, Forget the snorting steam and piston stroke, Forget the spreading of the hideous town, Think rather of the pack horse on the down,

And dream of London, small, and white, and clean, The clear Thames bordered by its gardens green; Think, that below bridge the green lapping waves Smite some few keels that bear Levantine staves, Cut from the yew wood on the burnt-up hill, And pointed jars that Greek hands toiled to fill, And treasured scanty spice from some far sea, Florence gold cloth, and Ypres napery, And cloth of Bruges, and hogsheads of Guienne; While nigh the thronged wharf Geoffrey Chaucer's pen

Moves over bills of lading—mid such times Shall dwell the hollow puppets of my rhymes.

FRANCIS BRET HARTE

1839-1902

The Réveillé.

HARK! I hear the tramp of thousands,
And of armed men the hum;
Lo! a nation's hosts have gathered
Round the quick alarming drum,—
Saying, 'Come,
Freemen, come!

Ere your heritage be wasted,' said the quick alarming drum.

'Let me of my heart take counsel: War is not of life the sum; Who shall stay and reap the harvest When the autumn days shall come?'

FRANCIS BRET HARTE 138

But the drum Cchoed 'Come!

Death shall reap the braver harvest,' said the solemn sounding drum

But when won the coming battle, What of profit springs therefrom? What if conquest subjugation,

Lyen greater ills become?" But the drum

Answered, 'Come! You must do the sum to prove it, said the Yankeeanswering drum

'What if, 'mid the cannons thunder, Whistling shot and bursting bomb,

When my brothers fall around me Should my heart grow cold and numb?'

But the dram Answered 'Come!

Better there in death united, than in life a recreant,-come !

Thus they answered, -hoping, fearing, Some in faith, and doubting some. Till a trumpet voice proclaiming, Said, 'My chosen people, come!

Then the drum. Lo! was dumb,

I or the great heart of the nation, throbbing, answered. 'Lord, we come!

ROBERT BRIDGES

b. 1844

A Passer-By.

WHITHER, O splendid ship, thy white sails crowding,
Leaning across the bosom of the urgent West,
That fearest nor sea rising, nor sky clouding,
Whither away, fair rover, and what thy quest?
Ah! soon, when Winter has all our vales opprest,
When skies are cold and misty, and hail is hurling,
Wilt thou glide on the blue Pacific, or rest
In a summer haven asleep, thy white sails furling.

I there before thee, in the country that well thou knowest,

Already arrived am inhaling the odorous air:

I watch thee enter unerringly where thou goest,
And anchor queen of the strange shipping there,
Thy sails for awnings spread, thy masts bare;
Nor is aught from the foaming reef to the snow-

capped, grandest

Peak, that is over the feathery palms more fair Than thou, so upright, so stately, and still thou standest.

And yet, O splended ship, unhailed and nameless, I know not if, aiming a fancy, I rightly divine That thou hast a purpose joyful, a courage blameless, Thy port assured in a happier land than mine.

But for all I have given thee, beauty enough is thine.

As thou, aslant with trim tackle and shrouding,
From the proud nostril curve of a prow's line
In the offing scatterest foam, the white sails crowding

WILLIAM ERNEST HENLEY

1849-1903

Invictus

OUT of the night that covers me, Black as the Pit from pole to pole, I thank whatever gods may be For my unconquerable soul

In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowd

Beyond this place of wrath and tears

Looms but the Horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years

Finds and shall find me unafraid

It matters not how strait the gate, How charged with punishments the scroll, I am the master of my fate I am the captain of my soul

SIR HENRY NEWBOLT

b. 1862

The Fighting Timeraire.

It was eight bells ringing,
For the morning watch was done,
And the gunner's lads were singing
As they polished every gun.
It was eight bells ringing,
And the gunner's lads were singing,
For the ship she rode a-swinging
As they polished every gun.

Oh! to see the linstock lighting,
Téméraire! Téméraire!
Oh! to hear the round shot biting,
Téméraire! Téméraire!
Oh! to see the linstock lighting,
And to hear the round shot biting,
For we're all in love with fighting
On the Fighting Témeraire.

It was noontide ringing,
And the battle just begun,
When the ship her way was winging
As they loaded every gun.
It was noontide ringing,
When the ship her way was winging,
And the gunner's lads were singing
As they loaded every gun.

There il be many grum and gory, Timéraire! Teméraire! There il be few to tell the story, Timéraire! Timéraire! There il be mans grum and gory, There il be few to tell the story But we'll all be one in glory

II ith the Fighting Temeraire

There's a far bell ringing
At the setting of the sun,
And a phintom voice is singing
Of the great days done.
There's a far bell ringing,
And a phantom voice is singing
Of renown for ever elinging

To the great days done.

Now the sunset breezes shiver, Timeraire! Timeraire! And she s fading down the river, Timeraire! Timeraire! Now the sunset breezes shiver, And she s fading down the river, But in England's song for ever She s the Tykting Timeraire

Drake's Drum.

DRAKE he's in his hammock an' a thousand mile away,

(Capten, art tha sleepin' there below?),

Slung atween the round shot in Nombre Dios Bay, An' dreamin' arl the time o' Plymouth Hoe.

Yarnder lumes the Island, yarnder lie the ships, Wi' sailor lads a dancin' heel-an'-toe,

An' the shore-lights flashin', an' the night-tide dashin',

He sees et arl so plainly as he saw et long ago.

Drake he was a Devon man, an' rüled the Devon seas, (Capten, art tha sleepin' there below?),

Rovin' tho' his death fell, he went wi' heart at ease, An' dreamin' arl the time o' Plymouth Hoe.

'Take my drum to England, hang et by the shore, Strike et when your powder's runnin' low;

If the Dons sight Devon, I'll quit the port o' Heaven, An' drum them up the Channel as we drummed them long ago.'

Drake he's in his hammock till the great Armadas come,

(Capten, art tha sleepin' there below?),

Slung atween the round shot, listenin' for the drum, An' dreamin' arl the time o' Plymouth Hoe.

Call him on the deep sea, call him up the Sound, Call him when ye sail to meet the foe;

Where the old trade's plyin' an' the old flag flyin' They shall find him ware an' wakin', as they found him long ago!

A Ballad of John Nicholson

IT fell in the year of Mutiny, At darkest of the night, John Nicholson by Jalandhar came, On his way to Delhi fight

And as he by Jalandhar carre
He thought what he must do,
And he sent to the Rajah fair greeting,
To try if he were true.

'God grant your Highness length of days, And friends when need shall be, And I pray you send your Captains hither, That they may speak with me.

On the morrow through Jalandhar town The Captains rode in state, They came to the house of John Nicholson And stood before the gate

The chief of them was Mehtab Singh, He was both proud and sly, His turban gleamed with rubies red He held his chin full high

He marked his fellows how they put Their shoes from off their feet, 'Now wherefore make ye such ado These fallen lords to greet? 'They have ruled us for a hundred years, In truth I know not how, But though they be fain of mastery, They dare not claim it now.'

Right haughtily before them all The durbar hall he trod, With rubies red his turban gleamed, His feet with pride were shod.

They had not been an hour together, A scanty hour or so, When Mehtab Singh rose in his place And turned about to go.

Then swiftly came John Nicholson Between the door and him, With anger smouldering in his eyes That made the rubies dim.

'You are overhasty, Mehtab Singh,'—
Oh, but his voice was low!
He held his wrath with a curb of iron.
That furrowed cheek and brow.

'You are overhasty, Mehtab Singh, When that the rest are gone, I have a word that may not wait To speak with you alone.'

The Captains passed in silence forth And stood the door behind;
To go before the game was played Be sure they had no mind.

But there within John Nicholson
Turned him on Mehtab Singh,
'So long as the soul is in my body
You shall not a this thore.

'So long as the soul is in my body
You shall not do this thing
Have ye served us for a hundred years

And yet ye know not why?

We brook no doubt of our mastery,

We brook no doubt of our mastery, We rule until we die

'Were I the one last Englishman Drawing the breath of life, And you the master rebel of all That stir this land to strife—

Were I, he said, 'but a Corpord And you a Rajput King, So long as the soul was in my body You should not do this thing

'Take off, take off those shoes of pride, Carry them whence they came, Your Captains saw your insolence

And they shall see your shame'

When Mehtab Singh came to the door His shoes they burned his hand, For there in long and silent lines

For there in long and silent line He saw the Captains stand

When Mehtab Singh rode from the gate His chin was on his breast The Captains said, 'When the strong command Obedience is best'

Obedience is best

RUDYARD KIPLING

b. 1865

Ballad of East and West.

- OH, East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet,
- Till Earth and Sky stand presently at God's great Judgement Seat;
- But there is neither East nor West, Border, nor Breed, nor Birth,
- When two strong men stand face to face, though they come from the ends of the earth!
- Kamal is out with twenty men to raise the Border side, And he has lifted the Colonel's mare that is the Colonel's pride.
- He has lifted her out of the stable-door between the dawn and the day,
- And turned the calkins upon her feet, and ridden her far away.
- Then up and spoke the Colonel's son that led a troop of the Guides:
- 'Is there never a man of all my men can say where Kamal hides?'
- Then up and spoke Mahommed Khan, the son of the Ressaldar:
- 'If ye know the track of the morning-mist, ye know where his pickets are.
- At dusk he harries the Abazai--at dawn he is into Bonair,

But he must go by Fort Bukloh to his own place to fare

So if ye gallop to Fort Bukloh as fast as a bird can fly, By the favour of God ve may cut him off ere he win to the Tongue of Jagai

But if he be past the Tongue of Jagai, right swiftly

turn ve then,

For the length and the breadth of that grisly plum is sown with Kamals men

There is rock to the left and rock to the right, and low lean thorn between.

And we may hear a breech bolt smick where never a man is seen

The Colonel's son has taken a horse, and a raw rough dun was be

With the mouth of a bell and the heart of Hell and the head of a gallows-tree

The Colonel's son to the Fort has won, they bid him stay to eat-

Who rides at the tail of a Border thief, he sits not long at his meat

He s up and away from Fort Bulloh as fast as he can fly,

Till he was aware of his futher's mare in the gut of the Tongue of Jagar.

Till he was aware of his father's mare with Kamal upon her back,

And when he could spy the white of her eye, he made the pistol crack

He has fired once, he has fired twice, but the whistling ball went wide

- 'Ye shoot like a soldier,' Kamal said. 'Show now if ye can ride!'
- It's up and over the Tongue of Jagai, as blown dustdevils go,
- The dun he fled like a stag of ten, but the mare like a barren doe.
- The dun he leaned against the bit and slugged his head above,
- But the red mare played with the snaffle-bars as a maiden plays with a glove.
- There was rock to the left and rock to the right, and low lean thorn between,
- And thrice he heard a breech-bolt snick tho' never a man was seen.
- They have ridden the low moon out of the sky, their hoofs drum up the dawn,
- The dun he went like a wounded bull, but the mare like a new-roused fawn.
- The dun he fell at a water-course—in a woful heap fell he,
- And Kamal has turned the red mare back, and pulled the rider free.
- He has knocked the pistol out of his hand—small room was there to strive,
- 'Twas only by favour of mine,' quoth he, 'ye rode so long alive:
- There was not a rock for twenty mile, there was not a clump of tree,
- But covered a man of my own men with his rifle cocked on his knee.
- If I had raised my bridle-hand, as I have held it low,

The little jackals that flee so fast were feasting all in

a row If I had bowed my head on my breast, as I have held

it high,

The Lite that whistles above us now were gorged till
she could not fly

Lightly answered the Colonels son 'Do good to bird and beast.

But count who come for the broken meats before

If there should follow a thousand swords to carry my

bones away,
Belike the price of a jackal's meal were more than

a thief could pay They will feed their horse on the standing crop, their

men on the garnered grain,
The thatch of the byres will serve their fires when all

the cattle are slain

But if thou thinkest the price be fair,—thy brethren

wait to sup,

The hound is kin to the jackal spawn,—howl, dog, and call them up!

And if thou thinkest the price be high in steer and gear and stack.

Give me my fathers mare aguin, and I'll fight my own way back!

Kamal has gripped him by the hand and set him upon his feet.

'No talk shall be of dogs,' said he, 'when wolf and grey wolf meet

May I cat dirt if thou hast hurt of me in deed or breath,

- What dam of lances brought thee forth to jest at the dawn with Death?'
- Lightly answered the Colonel's son: 'I hold by the blood of my clan:
- Take up the mare for my father's gift—by God, she has carried a man!'
- The red mare ran to the Colonel's son, and nuzzled against his breast;
- 'We be two strong men,' said Kamal then, 'but she loveth the younger best.
- So she shall go with a lifter's dower, my turquoisestudded rein,
- My 'broidered saddle and saddle-cloth, and silver stirrups twain.'
- The Colonel's son a pistol drew and held it muzzle-end,
- 'Ye have taken the one from a foe,' said he; 'will ye take the mate from a friend?'
- 'A gift for a gift,' said Kamal straight; 'a limb for the risk of a limb.
- Thy father has sent his son to me, I'll send my son to him!'
- With that he whistled his only son, that dropped from a mountain-crest—
- He trod the ling like a buck in spring, and he looked like a lance in rest.
- 'Now here is thy master,' Kamal said, 'who leads a troop of the Guides,
- And thou must ride at his left side as shield on shoulder rides.
- Till Death or I cut loose the tie, at camp and board and bed,

Thy life is his-thy fate it is to guard him with

thy head So, thou must eat the White Queen's meat, and all her foes are thune.

And thou must harry the father's hold for the

And thou must make a trooper tough and hack

Belike they will raise thee to Ressaldar when I am

They have looked each other between the eyes, and there they found no fault.

They have taken the Oath of the Brother-in Blood

They have taken the Oath of the Brother in-Blood on fire and fresh cut sod.

On the hilt and the haft of the Khyber kmfe, and the Wondrous Names of God The Colonel's son he rides the mare and Kamal's

boy the dun, And two have come back to Fort Bukloh where

there went forth but one
And when they dren to the Quarter Guard, full

twenty swords flew clearThere was not a man but carried his feud with

the blood of the mountaineer
'Ha' done! ha done!' said the Colonel's pon

'Put up the steel at your *ides!

Last night ye had struck at a Border thus!—

Last night he had struck at a Border thiefto night us a man of the Guides!

- Oh, East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet,
- Till Earth and Sky stand presently at God's great Judgement Seat;
- But there is neither East nor West, Border, nor Breed, nor Birth,
- When two strong men stand face to face, tho' they come from the ends of the earth!

Big Steamers.

- 'OH, where are you going to, all you Big Steamers, With England's own coal, up and down the salt seas?'
- 'We are going to fetch you your bread and your butter,
 - Your beef, pork, and mutton, eggs, apples, and cheese.'
- 'And where will you fetch it from, all you Big Steamers,
 - And where shall I write you when you are away?'
- 'We fetch it from Melbourne, Quebec, and Vancouver— Address us at Hobart, Hong-kong, and Bombay.'
- 'But if anything happened to all you Big Steamers, And suppose you were wrecked up and down the salt sea?'
- 'They, you'd have no coffee or bacon for breakfast, And you'd have no muffins or toast for your tea.'

- 'Then I ll pray for fine weather for all you Big Steamers.
- For little blue billows and breezes so soft ' 'Oh, billows and breezes don't bother Big Steamers, For we're iron below and steel rigging aloft
- 'Then Ill build a new lighthouse for all you Big Steamers. With plenty wise pilots to pilot you through'
- 'Oh, the Channel's as bright as a ball room already,
- And pilots are thicker than pilchards at Looe'
- 'Then what can I do for you, all you Big Steamers, Oh, what can I do for your comfort and good?'
- Send out your big warships to watch your big waters
- That no one may stop us from bringing you food · For the bread that you eat and the biscuits you
 - mbble The sweets that you suck and the joints that
- you carve. They are brought to you daily by all us Eig
 - Steamers. And if any one hinders our coming you'll
 - starze!

SIR FRANCIS HASTINGS DOYLE

8881-0181

The Private of the Buffs.

'Some Sikhs and a private of the Buffs, having remained behind with the grog carts, fell into the hands of the Chinese. On the next morning they were brought before the authorities, and commanded to perform the Kotow. The Sikhs obeyed; but Moyse, the English soldier, declaring that he would not prostrate himself before any Chinaman alive, was immediately knocked upon the head, and his body thrown on a dunghill.'—The Times (An incident in the China War, which ended in 1860).

LAST night, among his fellow roughs,
He jested, quaffed, and swore,
A drunken private of the Buffs,
Who never looked before.
To-day, beneath the foeman's frown,
He stands in Elgin's place,
Ambassador from Britain's crown,
And type of all her race.

Poor, reckless, rude, low-born, untaught, Bewildered, and alone,
A heart, with English instinct fraught, He yet can call his own.
Aye, tear his body limb from limb, Bring cord, or axe, or flame:
He only knows, that not through him Shall England come to shame.

Far Kentish hop-fields round him seemed, Like dreams, to come and go; Bright leagues of cherry-blossom gleamed, One sheet of living snow;

156 SIR FRANCIS HASTINGS DOYLE

The smoke, above his father's door, In grey soft eddyings hung Must he then watch it rise no more, Doomed by himself so young?

Yes honour calls t—with strength like steel

He put the vision by
Let dusky Indians white and kneel.

Let dusky Indians whine and kneel.

An English lad must die
And thus, with eyes that would not shrink,
With knee to man unbent,

Unfaltering on its dreadful brink, To his red grave he went

Vain mightiest fleets of iron framed, Vain, those all shattering guns, Unless proud England keep, untamed, The strong heart of her sons So, let his name through Europe ring— A man of mean estate,

A man of mean estate, Who died, as firm as Sparta's king, Because his soul was great.

ADA SMITH

In City Streets

YONDER in the heather there's a bed for sleeping, Drink for one athirst, ripe blackberries to eat, Yonder in the sun the merry hares go leaping, And the pool is clear for travel-wearied feet Sorely throb my feet, a-tramping London highways, (Ah! the springy moss upon a northern moor!)
Through the endless streets, the gloomy squares and byways,

Homeless in the City, poor among the poor!

London streets are gold—ah, give me leaves a-glinting 'Midst grey dykes and hedges in the autumn sun! London water's wine, poured out for all unstinting—God! For the little brooks that tumble as they run!

Oh, my heart is fain to hear the soft wind blowing, Soughing through the fir-tops up on northern fells!

Oh, my eye's an ache to see the brown burns flowing Through the peaty soil and tinkling heather-bells.

LAURENCE BINYON

b. 1869

For the Fallen.

WITH proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children, England mourns for her dead across the sea. Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit, Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres. There is music in the midst of desolation And a glory that shines upon our tears.

158 LAURENCE BINYON

They went with songs to the battle, they were young, Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow. They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted, They fell with their faces to the fee.

They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow

oid

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again,
They sit no more at familiar tables of home,
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time

They sleep beyond England's foam

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,

Felt as a well spring that is hidden from sight, To the innermost heart of their own land they are

To the innermost heart of their own land they are known.

As the stars are known to the Night.

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust, Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,

As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,

To the end, to the end, they remain

RUPERT BROOKE

-1914

The Soldier.

If I should die, think only this of me:
 That there's some corner of a foreign field
That is for ever England. There shall be
 In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,
 Gave, once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam,
A body of England's, breathing English air,
 Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home.

And think, this heart, all evil shed away,

A pulse in the eternal mind, no less

Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England
given;

Her sights and sounds; dreams happy as her day; And laughter, learnt of friends; and gentleness, In hearts at peace, under an English heaven.

JAMES ELROY FLECKER, O.U.

God save the King.

GOD save our gracious King,
Nation and State and King,
God save the King!
Grant him the Peace divine,
But if his Wars be Thine
Flash on our fighting line
Victory's Wing!

160 JAMES ELROY FLECKER

Thou in his suppliant hands Hast placed such Mighty Lands Save thou our King! As once from golden Skies Rebels with flaming eyes,

Rebels with flaming eyes, So the Kings Enemies Doom Thou and fling!

Mountains that break the night Holds He by eagle right Stretching far Wing! Dawn lands for Youth to reap, Dim lands where Empires sleep, His! And the Lion Deep

Rours for the King

But most these few dear miles Of sweetly meadowed Isles,— England all Spring, Scotland that by the marge Where the blank North doth charge Hears Thy Voice loud and large,

lears Thy Voice loud and las Save, and their King!

Grace on the golden Dales Of Thine old Christian Wales Shower till they sing.

Till Erin's Island lawn
Echoes the dulcet drawn
Song with a cry of Dawn—
God save the King!

E. W. HORNUNG. O.U.

Uppingham Song. (1913)

AGES ago (as to-day they are reckoned)

I was a lone little, blown little fag:
Panting to heel when Authority beckoned,
Spoiling to write for the Uppingham Mag.!
Thirty years on seemed a terrible time then—
Thirty years back seems a twelvemonth or so.
Little I saw myself spinning this rhyme then—
Less do I feel that it's ages ago!

Ages ago that was Somebody's study;
Somebody Else had the study next door.
O their long walks in the fields dry or muddy!
O their long talks in the evenings of yore!
Still, when they meet, the old evergreen fellows
Jaw in the jolly old jargon as though
Both were as slender and sound in the bellows
As they were ages and ages ago!

O but the ghosts at each turn I could show you!—
Ghosts in low collars and little cloth caps—
Each of 'em now quite an elderly O. U.—
Wiser, no doubt, and as pleasant—perhaps!
That's where poor Jack lit the slide up with tollies,
Once when the quad was a foot deep in snow—
When a live Bishop was one of the Pollies—
Ages and ages and ages ago!

Things that were Decent and things that were Rotten, How I remember them year after year!

Some—it may be—that were better forgotten Some that—it may be—should still draw a tear More, many more, that are good to remember

More, many more, that are good to remember larns that grow richer, the older they grow Deeds that would make a man's ultimate ember Glow with the ferrour of area area!

Did we play footer in funny long flannels? Had we no Corps to give zest to our drill? Never a Gym lined throughout with pine panels Hilf of your best buildings were quirry-stone still? Ah! but it a not for their looks that you love them, Not for the crift of the builder below, But for the spirit behind and above them—

But for the Spirit of Ages Ago!

Fton may rest on I er I ield and her River Harrow has songs that she knows how to sing Winchester slang makes the sensitive shiver Rugby had Arnold but never had Thring! Repton can put up as good an Fleven

Marlborough men are the fear of the for All that I wish to remark is—thank Heaven I was at Uppingham ages ago!

I was at Oppingnam ages ago

The Old Boys.

(1917)

'Who is the one with the empty sleeve?'
'Some sport who was in the swim.'
'And the one with the ribbon who's home on leave?'
'Good Lord! I remember him!
A hulking fool, low down in the school,
And no good at games was he—
All fingers and thumbs—and very few chums.
(I wish he'd shake hands with me!)'

'Who is the one with the heavy stick,
Who seems to walk from the shoulder?'
'Why, many's the goal you have watched him kick!'
'He's looking a lifetime older.
Who is the one that's so full of fun—
I never beheld a blither—
Yet his eyes are fixt as the furrow betwixt?'
'He cannot see out of either.'

'Who are the ones that we cannot see,

Though we feel them as near as near?

In Chapel one felt them bend the knee,

At the match one felt them cheer.

In the deep still shade of the Colonnade,

In the ringing quad's full light,

They are laughing here, they are chaffing there,

Yet never in sound or sight.'

E W HORNUNG 16.1

Oh, those are the ones who never shall leave. As they once were afraid they would! They marched away from the school at eye,

But at dayn came back for good.

With deathless blooms from uncoffind tombs To lay at our Founder's shrine As many are they as ourselves to day,

And their place is yours and mine But who are the ones they can help or harm

Each small box, never so new. Has an Elder Brother to take his arm. And show him the thing to do-

And the thing to resist with a doubled fist, If hed be nor knave nor fool-

And the Game to play if hed tread the way Of the School behind the school'

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How all occasions do inform against me

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